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\$5b deficit budget

Kuwait estimates KD2.4b revenues and KD3.6b spending

KUWAIT, June 30, (Reuters): Kuwait has approved its government's budget for the fiscal year 1990-91, providing for a deficit of nearly KD1.5 billion (\$5 billion), according to an official decree released today.

Revenues were estimated at KD2.4 billion (\$8.16 billion), more than 85 per cent coming from the oil industry, and spending at KD3.6 billion (\$12.2 billion).

A total of KD340 million (\$816 million), or 10 per cent, of the revenues were dedicated to a reserve fund which provides budget reserves for future needs.

The deficit in fiscal 1989-90 was estimated at KD1.3 billion (\$4.4 billion), 12 per cent lower than this year's. The government subsidises many of the basic needs of Kuwaitis.

Officials in Kuwait said bond issues and borrowing from local institutions would be used to cover the deficit, rather than money from the reserve fund, in order to stimulate the domestic market.

A decree issued recently allowed the government to borrow KD1.40 billion (\$4.76 billion) for a period that does not exceed 10 years.

Oil revenues make up KD2.1 billion (\$7.1 billion) of projected revenues for 1990-91 compared with KD1.9 billion (\$6.4 billion) last year.

Iran firm on quotas as Saudis lobby UAE

TEHRAN, June 30, (Reuters): Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aghazadeh, joining a growing assault on Opec quota-busters, said today the organisation must take a tougher stand when it meets next month.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries has not been firm enough in the past with over-producers, especially the United Arab Emirates, he told Reuters in an interview.

"A country cannot be a member of an organisation and act against it. The members have not reacted seriously enough to this problem yet," he said.

"Any decision without discipline means nothing."

Aghazadeh said prices could be restored to Opec's \$18 per barrel if over-production was tamed at the organisation's July 25 meeting in Geneva.

"I am not prepared to discuss any other issue unless we reach agreement on this," he added.

Iranian oil industry sources said Tehran was privately threatening to open the taps and produce 3.5 or 3.6 million barrels per day unless the Opec meeting introduced discipline among the 13 member states. Its current Opec quota is 3.14 bpd.

Aghazadeh said Iran would not accept any change in its share of the total Opec quota. He estimated Opec output in June at 23.5 million bpd, compared with a target of 22.1 million bpd.

World markets are glutted with crude oil. Prices have fallen a third this year to between three and four dollars below the Opec target — prompting a rare burst of plain speaking as other members put public pressure on the UAE.

Iran and its Gulf war enemy Iraq have both joined the campaign. Opec president Saïd Boussena of Algeria has just visited the Gulf producers, preaching the need for production restraint.

Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister, Hisham Nazer, was in the UAE for talks today after a visit to Kuwait. Oil industry sources in Abu Dhabi said he was trying to cool the Opec war of words.

Aghazadeh told Reuters the UAE was overproducing on its quota by about a million bpd and Iran lost \$1 billion for every dollar the spot crude price fell.

Gunman kills policeman in Belfast

BELFAST, June 30, (AP): A gunman shot the officers just before midnight on a street filled with shoppers in downtown Belfast, killing one policeman and seriously injuring another, authorities said.

The Irish Republican Army, which has targeted security forces in its fight to end British rule in Northern Ireland, later claimed responsibility for the attack.

The shoppers looked on in horror as the gunman shot the officers just before midnight on a street filled with shoppers in downtown Belfast, killing one policeman and seriously injuring another, authorities said.

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The coup that was



Kenneth Kaunda. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bid to topple Kaunda fails

Rebel officer captured

LUSAKA, June 30, (Agencies): Zambia President Kenneth Kaunda survived a coup attempt today which brought hundreds of residents of Lusaka onto the streets in a joyful but short-lived celebration of his overthrow.

The coup plotters, led by an army lieutenant, won control of Zambia radio and television for more than three hours to broadcast a brief message that the military had seized power.

But Lieutenant Mwamba Luchembe was overpowered and taken away by other soldiers around 7 am (0500 GMT) and it quickly became apparent that Kaunda's government was in full control.

Kaunda himself, opening a trade fair in the northern city of Ndola this afternoon, thanked God for the failure of the coup, which he said was the work of cowards who wanted "to kill all of us."

"Those who live by the sword shall perish by the sword," he said, quoting the Bible. "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

He said he was not fearful of dying. "I have one life and one life only, and that life I will live," he said in a speech over state radio.

Kaunda's deputy, Grey Zulu, told Zambians in a television broadcast earlier that the coup was the work of one indisposed soldier who enjoyed no support.

Around 6 am (0400 GMT), when news of the coup spread at the end of the 12-hour curfew, crowds of Zambians surged into Cairo Road, Lusaka's main shopping centre, to celebrate Kaunda's overthrow.

Hooting the horns of hijacked vehicles and punching their fists in the air, they shouted: "Viva Tembo, Kaunda down." "Some soldiers on sentry duty appeared to sympathise."

Tembo is Lieutenant-General Christine Tembo, a former army officer who was captured after the coup.

The newspaper's account was the second of two pre-publication excerpts of the book entitled "Three-way Treason," by American journalist Louis Tescano.

The manuscript as related by Maariv exposes many details of one of Israel's most mysterious espionage cases.

Vanunu, 36, a former technician at the Dimona nuclear reactor, is serving an 18-year jail sentence for treason and espionage for his revelations published by the Sunday Times of London in 1986.

His case has been championed worldwide by human rights groups who consider him to be a hero for the anti-nuclear cause.

Vanunu's information suggested Israel had stockpiled 100 nuclear weapons and could produce neutron and hydrogen bombs, making it the world's sixth largest nuclear arsenal.

Most of the proceedings against Vanunu in Israel have been shrouded in secrecy, including details of how he was brought back for trial.

According to Maariv, Tescano's book based on 120 interviews in five countries including Israel, shows that Israel's secret Mossad intelligence agency had closely tracked Vanunu in Sydney, Australia before he sold his story to the British paper.

Vanunu had moved to Sydney after being laid off from the reactor in October 1985. While in Australia he converted to Christianity and later made contacts with journalists concerning his material from the Israeli reactor.

the party that was



Residents of Lusaka celebrate after hearing the coup news. (Reuters wirephoto)

No mention of Crown Prince in decree Sharjah ruler picks deputy

SHARJAH, UAE, June 30, (AP): The ruler of this southern Gulf emirate, Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qassimi, issued a decree today appointing his cousin, Sheikh Ahmed, as his deputy.

Sheikh Ahmed is already chairman of the oil department, which is the main revenue-generating department of Sharjah.

The decree did not refer to Sultan's elder brother, Sheikh Abdul-Aziz, who three years ago attempted to topple him.

After the intervention of the rulers of the rest of the neighbouring emirates, Sultan kept on his brother as Crown Prince but Abdul-Aziz disappeared from public and political scene shortly afterward.

There had been speculation that Abdul-Aziz might still be reinstated in view of the need for a second in command in the emirate, but Sultan has now closed the door by choosing his cousin as deputy. But diplomats noted that he did not directly name him as Crown Prince.

Abdul-Aziz has been residing for quite a while in the Al Ain suburb of Abu Dhabi, in a palace said to have been offered to him as part of the mediation efforts between the two brothers by the United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan.

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'India needs N-arms ...'

Army chief critical of 'use of troops'

NEW DELHI, June 30, (Reuters): India's army chief, in a thinly-veiled reference to Pakistan, said today that his country had to acquire nuclear weapons if a neighbour appeared to be doing likewise.

General Vishwanath Sharma was critical of the use of the country's armed forces, ranked in size behind China, the Soviet Union and the United States, in dealing with internal violence.

Clearly referring to Pakistan, Sharma, 60, told state-run All India Radio in a farewell interview before retiring that there were reports of a neighbouring country developing nuclear weapons.

"As a soldier I must (say) the reply to a nuclear weapon capability of a potentially hostile nation is to possess the same capability yourself," he said.

"Unless you possess such a capability, there is no deterrence available from the use of such weapons by your adversaries."

Indian newspaper reports have accused Pakistan of developing nuclear weapons at a time when their ties are strained to breaking point over a secessionist uprising in Indian-ruled Kashmir.

Sharma himself admitted that the decision on nuclear weapons was not to be made by the government. "It is in the hands of our people and the government," he said.

He also aired another military grievance rarely voiced by officers in public — the frequent use of troops to control communal riots and secessionist violence in Punjab and Kashmir.

"Speaking as a soldier, the disadvantage to the army is that months of training are lost, much money is spent in movement of units and keeping troops on. Budgets go away," he said.

But he praised the government's decision to form a security force called National Rifles, comprising retired soldiers.

"We feel such a force may assist the government and reduce the calling out of regular army too often in dealing with law and order problems," Sharma said.

"The army is the only intervention force left in the hands of the civil authorities and the government, should law and order not be possible to be controlled by police forces," he said.

The armed forces, long regarded as being above controversy unlike most of India's other institutions, has in the last decade become the subject of public criticism, analysts said.

Its most serious crisis, apart from the defeat by China in a border war in 1962, was its role in controlling Sikh separatist violence in Punjab from the early 1980s, they added.

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Troops raid West Bank

'US keen to resume talks'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 30, (AP): Israeli troops backed by helicopters raided two villages in the occupied West Bank and detained dozens of Palestinians suspected of causing riots, the army and Israel radio said today.

In Israel, a Palestinian detainee was slain by a fellow Arab in the Ketziot prison camp as an alleged collaborator with the Israeli authorities, Arab reports said. The army confirmed the killing but said the motive was unclear.

In today's raids troops also confiscated "cold weapons," which usually means knives, and paramilitary uniforms, during the weekend operation, the radio said.

It appeared to be the largest arrest sweep in the West Bank since Defence Minister Moshe Arens of the right-wing Likud Bloc took office earlier this month.

Arab reports said troops clamped a curfew on one of the target villages, Shweike near the northern town of Tulkarem, at about 10:30 am local time (07:30 GMT) today.

The soldiers shouted orders through megaphones for all village men to gather at a schoolyard, the reports added, quoting witnesses.

The military command said Shweike was one of two sites of arrests, the other being Beit Lakiya village near the city of Ramallah, which is just north of Jerusalem.

In all dozens "suspected among other things of conducting violence and causing disturbances," were detained, an army communique said, without elaborating.

According to Arab reports, soldiers also clamped three-hour curfews on Tulkarem and Jenin today, and also in the village of Burkin where officers went house-to-house to collect taxes.

In southern Israel, the army said a Palestinian detainee in the Ketziot desert prison camp was found slain and that a fellow Arab prisoner had confessed to the killing.

The victim was identified as Ibrahim Mahmoud Bobo, 30, of Bureij refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, and the suspected assailant as Adel Mahmud Mohammed Najjar, 29, of Bani Subeilla in Gaza.

Egypt

Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Maguid said today at the end of a visit to Italy he believed the United States was keen to resume its contacts with the PLO suspended 10 days ago.

"I noted in Washington a willingness to continue the process of peace and to resume dialogue with the PLO on certain conditions," Abdel Maguid told reporters.

Arafat

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat requested he be received by the 12 leaders of the European Economic Community at their recent summit but was rebuffed over concerns the United States might see acceptance as a diplomatic slight, the Spanish newspaper El Pais reported today.

In a story by its diplomatic correspondent, the paper said Arafat sought to be heard at the Dublin, Ireland, EEC summit June 25-26, a week after the United States suspended an 18-month-old dialogue with the PLO.

On June 22, Arafat aides transmitted the request by making contact with the Italian embassy in Tunis, Tunisia, where the PLO has its headquarters, the paper said.

The Palestinian aides led the Italians to understand that in return for acceptance of the meeting at the EEC Dublin summit, Arafat would repeat his condemnation of the use of violence and publicly distance himself from PLO radical Abu Abbas.

Bush

President George Bush joined the US congress yesterday in urging the United Nations to repeal a 1975 resolution declaring Zionism as "a form of racism and racial discrimination."

(See also Page 11)

Argentina and Italy triumph

FLORENCE, June 30, (Reuters): Argentina beat Yugoslavia 3-2 on penalties to win their World Cup quarterfinal today and book a place in the last four against Italy who beat Ireland 1-0. Salvatore Schillaci scored Italy's only goal.

Faruk Hadzibegic, Dragan Stojkovic and Dragoljub Brnovic missed penalties for Yugoslavia and Diego Maradona and Pedro Troiglio failed with successive spot kicks for Argentina.

I win or die here: Aoun

BEIRUT, June 30, (AP): Rival Christian forces skirmished in east Beirut overnight to deny a rebel Gen Michel Aoun said he was determined to die fighting for a solution to the Lebanese crisis.

Police said a civilian man was wounded during gunbattles in the district of Ashrafiyeh, a stronghold for Aoun's opponents, the Lebanese Forces militia headed by Samir Geagea.

A ceasefire brokered by the Vatican has been generally holding in the disputed 310-square-mile (800-square-km) enclave since May 17. However, a political settlement to the Aoun-Geagea conflict remains remote.

In the power struggle between Shiite Muslim factions, the Syrian-backed Amal militia announced a unilateral ceasefire as of this evening with the pro-Lebanese fundamentalist Hezbollah, in south Lebanon's Iqlim Al Tuffah province on the occasion of the Muslim feast, Eid Al Adha.

Aoun, in an interview with the newspaper Al Liwa, denied press reports that he considered stepping down and accepting a compromise with the government of Syrian-backed President Elias Hiriawi.

"I have made a promise to the Lebanese people ... Aoun either triumphs here or dies here," the general told the Sunni Muslim daily.

Either victory by finding a solution to the Lebanese crisis or death. There is no third alternative," Aoun declared.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad pledged full backing for efforts to end Lebanon's civil war in talks with Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal, who is spearheading a drive for peace.

700,000 flee summer heat

KUWAIT, June 30, (Reuters): About 700,000 Kuwaitis and expatriates — 36 per cent of the population — are expected to leave Kuwait to escape the Gulf's scorching summer heat.

Aviation officials say 506,779 passengers are booked out on scheduled flights and 86,000 on extra flights, the newspaper Al Sayassah reported today.

Summer temperatures in Kuwait reach 50 Centigrade (above 120 Fahrenheit).

Beware of share-by-phone bogus overseas brokers operating in Gulf

MUSCAT, June 30, (AP): Finance industry executives warned investors today to beware of bogus overseas brokers operating a share-by-phone scam in the Gulf.

Telephone calls to suburban homes across the capital at the weekend invited residents to invest cash in foreign ventures with a chance of making "major profits."

"We know of a number of cases where in the Gulf, many Asians, who have lost sums of up to \$10,000 each to these fraudulent telephone salesmen," said James Selway, spokesman for Muscat-based finance advisers Omninvest.

"When we hear reports of these phone calls starting in the Gulf again, as they did at exactly this time last year, we warn members of the public to consider any unsolicited investment proposals very, very carefully."

The high pressure sales technique employed was similar to that used by a fraudulent Amsterdam-based share dealing network whose victims spanned the Middle East, finance experts said.

When new investor protection legislation was introduced in Holland, the boiler-room operations had moved to Andorra, Dublin, Gibraltar, Madrid and Torremolinos, they said.

The salesmen's modus operandi was to publish newsletters listing fake shares alongside blue chip stock for "credibility," finance industry sources said.

"We have warned investors here in the Gulf that they deal only with established companies in countries which have investor protection laws or with local offshoots of major international firms or banks which can be trusted to pick up pieces if necessary," Selway said.

"Sending hard-earned savings to telephone salesmen offering spectacular returns on unlisted shares can be recipe for financial disaster,"

Picture shows an East Berliner cycling-by with an extra large one mark coin reading "German currency union 1990" on it in Berlin. (Reuters wirephoto)

See also Pages 7 & 13

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See also Pages 7 & 13

American mistakenly receives Aids-infected blood

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico, June 30, (AP): A mix-up of two patients with the same last name caused the wrong man to receive the Aids-infected blood of the other, hospital officials said.

"This is an absolute tragedy. We are devastated by this," said Dr Darwin Palmer, chief of infectious diseases at Veterans administration medical centre.

The error was discovered within an hour, he said. "If this patient, who is very ill, lives long enough, he will unfortunately have a good chance of developing the Aids virus infection," Palmer said.

The hospital immediately notified the patient about the error and offered him high-dose antiviral therapy, including the drug AZT, in an effort to stave off infection, Palmer said.

The hospital said it would not release either man's identity or name the ailment the wrongly injected man suffered from.

The male patients had recently undergone a rare blood test within 24 hours of each other, Palmer said.

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Fierce controversy over changes in India economic policy

By Thomas Abraham
Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, June 30. A fierce controversy is currently raging in India about some of the reported changes in economic policy being planned by the V.P. Singh government, especially with regard to foreign investment.

At the centre of the storm is a policy paper which many believe was authored by a senior official in the prime minister's office. The official, Montek Singh Ahluwalia, is arguably one of the best economists ever employed by the Indian government.

Officials explain that the paper was one of many discussion papers prepared for consideration by senior officials during the past few weeks. Based on these, a paper is being currently drafted and will come up before the cabinet when it meets soon to discuss the country's economic situation, they say.

The fact remains that the government is seriously concerned about the economic

situation, especially the balance of payments position and the fiscal difficulties. Some important measures to improve the situation are likely to be announced over the next few months. The government has already put into operation several austerity measures to curb the consumption of petroleum products, which are responsible for a major portion of the country's foreign exchange outgo.

Coupled with this is the prime minister's view that Indian industry simply cannot ignore the significant changes taking place elsewhere in the world, especially in Eastern Europe. In his opinion, Indian industry would have to become more competitive both in the domestic and the international markets. Further, it must bear increasing responsibilities for exports to earn more foreign exchange, he has been telling the industry over the past many weeks.

Singh has also been making several important statements about foreign investment.

The new government is of the view that foreign investment must be welcomed in areas of national priority, he has repeatedly ruled out a laissez faire economy but has promised reduced controls, projects with foreign equity of up to forty per cent can now hope to get near automatic approvals in certain areas. There has been also talk of raising the forty per cent ceiling on foreign equity to 51 per cent in specified areas. At present, the industry ministry is taking a close look at the foreign investment policies and the government may be expected to come out with a more transparent policy on the subject soon.

All this has been enough to spark off a controversy, with the government's critics accusing it of succumbing to the pressures of multi-national companies, the superpowers and institutions like the World Bank. Among those who have criticised the government's new policies on small scale and agro-processing industries has been the veteran Chandra Shekhar, a senior member of the ruling Janata

Dal.

Some of the proposals being talked about include raising the limit of assets under the monopolies and restrictive trade practices (MRTP) act from the present Rs100 crores to Rs500 crores.

There are people in the government who believe that in the long run, the rupee should be turned into a convertible currency. As a beginning, it could be devalued over a five-year period by about 20 per cent. Among other things being considered is a reduction in customs duty on raw materials, components and capital goods to 30 to 40 per cent.

Among all these, the reforms in the area of foreign investment are likely to prove the most controversial. India has always welcomed foreign investment though it remained selective about areas where it was allowed. Further, there is a 40 per cent limit on equity, which many companies felt was not very attractive.

Efforts have been made in recent years to step up foreign investment. But the fact remains that direct foreign investment has been rather low in India, with sanctions last year amounting to about Rs300 crores. This is in stark contrast to the billions of dollars that countries like China have been able to attract.

There is a section which feels that it will be a long time before foreign investments in India touch levels high enough to influence national priorities.

As far as the government is concerned, foreign investment assumes significance viewed against the background of the difficult balance of payments situation. Borrowing come with many conditionalities and high servicing costs, it is being pointed out. There is a feeling that foreign investment would lead to productive asset formation, employment generation and technological upgradation.

Some of the costs involved, like dividend

remittances and royalty payments, could be offset by stipulating export commitments to such projects, it is argued.

In some of his recent speeches, Prime Minister Singh has been talking of the success of the joint venture between Maruti and Suzuki of Japan to manufacture passenger cars. Maruti has been given the European market by Suzuki. Singh describes such investment as "risk-free."

Much will now depend on how far Singh will go in the direction of liberalisation without backing down under pressure from within and outside his party.

Meanwhile, a fresh effort is being made also to woo investment by non-resident Indians (NRIs). There are plans, among other things, to improve the working of the Indian investment centres abroad. Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate has been interacting with various NRI groups in the past few weeks and has promised them all support.

Soldiers roam with 'we kill for peace' T-shirts Welcome to Lanka ghost town

VAVUNIYA, Sri Lanka, June 30. (AP) Soldiers clad in black T-shirts reading "we kill for peace" lounge near a Buddhist temple, smoking cigarettes and cracking jokes. Their automatic weapons lean against a nearby wall.

Shops and offices on the town's narrow main street are boarded up and deserted. A sole army jeep speeds along the road.

Welcome to Vavuniya, population 18,000. It is one of hundreds of ghost towns in a 7-year-old civil war that has claimed at least 1,600 lives, both combatants and civilians, in this Indian Ocean island nation.

More than 450,000 people have fled the towns and villages of the north and east after a resurgence of fighting June 11 between Tamil separatists and mostly Sinhalese government troops.

Vavuniya located 217 kms (135 miles) north-east of Colombo, is the first northern settlement on the road to Jaffna peninsula, a Tamil rebel stronghold.

Tamil Tiger rebels seized Vavuniya shortly after they began overrunning police stations and attacking military camps on June 11.

Government troops counter-attacked five days later, recapturing the town after a battle in which nine soldiers and at least 67 rebels were reported killed.

Twelve civilians also died in the fighting and since then the town has emptied. About 1,800 frightened Sinhalese, Tamils and Muslims have taken refuge in a church and two schools. Thousands more have fled to distant villages to live with relatives.

"We cleared the town of people and have sealed off the three main entrances after capturing the area," said Brigadier Sathis Jayasuriya, army chief in Vavuniya.

"But the rebels are still capable of laying ambushes on the outskirts of the town," he added.

The fight for Vavuniya is typical of combat ravaging hundreds of villages.

After taking Vavuniya, Tamil rebels built sandbagged bunkers on the streets and painted colourful pictures of dead combatants on building walls.

Now Vavuniya is occupied by government

troops, who man posts at three strategic junctions. At one, a Sinhalese soldier draped a belt of machine-gun bullets around his neck.

"We have to be extremely careful since it is easy for the rebels to gain access to (the) town and attack civilian targets with bombs," the soldier said.

On Tuesday rebels ambushed and killed five soldiers on a road clearing operation at Madukanda village, north of Vavuniya town.

"We have learned from our past mistakes and are now capable of destroying the rebels," said a young Colonel, Parami Kulatunga.

In Vavuniya, long considered rebel country, nearly 80 per cent of the population are Tamils, while Sinhalese and Muslims make up the balance.

"The Tigers have to be destroyed," said Kirith Senewiratne, a 46-year-old Sinhalese clerk who fled Vavuniya town.

"Both communities have lived together for so many years, but now it is a case of finishing them off," said Senewiratne, speaking at a refugee camp south of his home.

Tamil rebels poison wells

COLOMBO, June 30. (Agencies) Fighting has eased in the 19-day war between Sri Lankan Tamil separatist guerrillas and government troops, but military sources said today it was a lull before the storm.

"Both sides are taking a break before they go at each others' throats again," a military officer said.

The battle is now focusing on the north, the stronghold of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

Retreating Tamil guerrillas have poisoned wells and planted land mines where government troops are advancing along the eastern coast, military officials said today.

At least eight soldiers lost their feet after stepping on mines near the port city of Trincomalee, the officials said.

Three other soldiers became ill and were rushed to a hospital after drinking well water in villages evacuated by the Tamil Tigers on the outskirts of Trincomalee, the officials added, speaking on condition of anonymity. The soldiers were reported in stable condition.

The government-run Daily News said the army had been forced to transport drinking water to front-line troops near Trincomalee, 245 kilometres (150 miles) northeast of Colombo.

The type of poison used was not known, but the Tigers are known to often wear suicide capsules of cyanide around their necks to avoid being captured alive.

The break in fighting came as Sri Lanka said it was sending an envoy to India to ease tension between the two neighbours.

Foreign Secretary Bernard Tillekeratne will leave for New Delhi tomorrow to tell Indian leaders about the reasons for the fighting and the steps being taken to minimise civilian casualties.

Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh said his country would take steps to prevent Tamil casualties but did not specify what he would do, the Press Trust of India said yesterday.

More than 700 people have died in the war, some of them civilians caught in the crossfire. Some 500,000 people, mostly Tamils, are homeless.

The airforce early this week bombed the northern capital of Jaffna in an attempt to dislodge Tiger positions, particularly those around a 350-year old Dutch fort, now an army base.

The star-shaped fort was one of the more than 10 army bases and 30 police stations attacked by the LTTE in its fierce offensive launched on June 11, which shattered a 14-month truce between Tamil separatists and the government.

More than 200 soldiers and policemen have been trapped in the fort with no food or medical supplies for almost three weeks.

Each night the fort has been attacked by the Tigers from their bunkers. The airforce has dropped food supplies, but it is unable to evacuate 16 wounded soldiers.

"We will be doing something about the fort as soon as possible," a military officer said.

Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne said on Thursday that operations in the East were almost finished and troops will be moved north after that.



Search for survivors

Firemen dig through the debris for survivors after a building collapsed in heavy rains, killing 24 people and injured 80 in Bombay. The building housed scores of jewellery makers and gold and diamonds worth millions of rupees may be buried in the rubble. (Reuters wirephoto)

Militants kill fleeing Hindu

Ceasefire violated

SRINAGAR, June 30. (AP) Muslim separatists shot and killed a Hindu man today, the day he planned to move from Kashmir valley to the Hindu dominated plains to the south, police said.

Nilakanth Raina, a former professor, was shot by unidentified militants in his house at Safakadal in Srinagar, a police official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. He said further details about Raina's profession were not immediately available.

Last night, separatists fatally shot a Hindu man and wounded his mother while they were being transported in a police van from their home in a mostly Muslim area to a private guest house, the police said.

Police superintendent Mohammad Amin Bhat said the family had apparently been warned by the militants not to move into a government-protected enclave.

Vivek Labroo, about 20, was killed instantly, and his mother, Kampa, was wounded in the leg, Bhat said.

Bhat said seven members of the Labroo family had accepted a government offer of safe housing in guest houses.

Thousands of Hindus have fled their homes in the predominantly Muslim Kashmir valley since the separatist movement escalated last winter and prompted a heavy government crackdown.

The militants have repeatedly accused the government of panicking Hindus and have maintained that members of the minority group will be safe unless they collaborate with the government.

In Jammu, about 300 striking doctors demonstrated today against the government-sponsored enrollment in a local medical college of 90 Hindu

medical students who fled Srinagar.

The strike, which began on Wednesday, has paralyzed work in the hospital attached to the Jammu Medical College.

"We are not against the migrant students," said Sushir Sharma, a strike organizer.

But he said their presence could cause the Medical Council of India to de-recognise the college if it has more than the number of students allowed.

"Moreover, there is a danger of their (migrants) getting jobs and other facilities which are meant for the natives only," he said.

In Kashmir valley, four other people were killed today, United News of India said. Officials said at least seven other people, including a senior Muslim civil servant, were killed yesterday and blamed the deaths on Muslim militants.

The victims were divided between Hindus and Muslims, said the officials who cannot be identified under briefing rules. Little information was available about the killings.

Muslim rebels tossed a hand grenade at an Indian paramilitary patrol today, wounding a police officer and violating a unilateral ceasefire called by a leading militant group fighting for Kashmiri independence.

The attack was the first in the old city since the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front declared a unilateral ceasefire in downtown area last Wednesday and urged other militants to comply.

The Liberation Front, one of the two leading militant groups fighting the war for independence, called the ceasefire because of the large number of civilian casualties that result when Indian police return fire in the crowded district.



New premier

Murtaz Hussain Rathore (right) embraces his predecessor and rival Sikandar Hayat, immediately after taking the oath to become the new premier of Pakistan-administered Kashmir, in Muzaffarabad. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rajiv: I don't figure in Bofors' report

NEW DELHI, June 30. (Kuna) Former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi has said that his name does not figure in the Swedish audit bureau report of kickback of the controversial Bofors gun deal.

Talking to newsmen after returning from Agra, where he had gone to visit riot affected areas yesterday Rajiv said that he was making this claim on the basis of information received from his own sources in the National Front government.

The V.P. Singh's government sought report of audit bureau from the Swedish government to set at rest all speculations regarding commission to some people in the \$1.4 billion gun deal, which was one of the major factors for the downfall of the Rajiv government.

Asked if he knew of any names mentioned in the report submitted by the Swedish government to India recently, the Congress (I) president said he knew but refused to share information with the press.

Rajiv said no information on the deal would be available to the Indian government if the audit report was presented to Parliament. He would demand that the report be shown to Speaker.

Rajiv said it is the duty of the government to inform the people that those blamed in the gun deal were not actually involved in it. He said he was one of those whose name was dragged into the gun deal controversy.

Referring to performance of the National Front government, Rajiv said all good work done by the Congress (I) regime has been laid to waste by the V.P. Singh government.

He said any talks of initiating political process in Jammu and Kashmir without involving the National Conference and the Congress (I) was futile. Referring to Sri Lanka, Rajiv said his country had promised to look after the safety of Tamils in the island nation. The present government had broken such promise by recalling Indian peace keeping forces.

Zambia

(Continued from Page 1)

commander and ambassador to West Germany who is on trial for treason for an alleged plot to overthrow Kaunda in 1988.

"Tembo is our leader, we don't want Kaunda any more," shouted one demonstrator. When he was told that the coup attempt had failed, the man said: "That cannot be true. I would be very disappointed."

The mood of the crowd bore witness to the deep slump in Kaunda's popularity, largely because of Zambia's mounting economic problems.

In three days of rioting earlier in the week, more than 27 people were killed and hundreds arrested and injured after the government doubled the price of maize meal, the staple food.

The rioting, put down by force, was blamed by Kaunda on agitators for a multi-party system in Zambia to replace the one-party state introduced in 1972.

Kaunda yesterday set October

17 as the date of a promised referendum on the issue, which has left him and his ruling United National Independence Party (UNIP) on the defensive.

The president, one of Africa's best-known political leaders, attacked his critics as wild dogs and said multi-party politics would lead to bloodshed and chaos.

There was no firm word on the fate of the arrested Lieutenant Luchembe, but accounts from witnesses and official sources said he and two or three other officers entered the mass media complex, which houses the radio and television, around 3 am (0100 GMT).

There was no violence and the announcement of Kaunda's overthrow was broadcast several times until shortly before 7 am (0500 GMT), after which the radio went off the air.

In the confusion, Kaunda's Information Minister, Arnold

Simuchimba, narrowly escaped death in a hail of bullets when he arrived at the media complex around 6 am (0400 GMT), according to the domestic news agency Zana.

Although Kaunda has faced coup plots before, notably in 1980, this is the first one to succeed in moving from talk to action against his government.

The Zambian president was elected unopposed in 1988 for a further term as head of state. Despite his unpopularity at home, neighbouring states would have been alarmed at his overthrow.

Kaunda is chairman of the six front line states ringing South Africa and is also valued as a diplomatic partner by South Africa itself.

He is the only front line leader to have held talks with President F.W. de Klerk, after meeting his two predecessors B.J. Vorster and P.W. Botha.

Ershad meets old friend Deng

No official media coverage

BEIJING, June 30. (AP) President Hussain Muhammad Ershad of Bangladesh held talks today with senior leader Deng Xiaoping, but neither commented publicly on their discussions.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry said Ershad met with the 85-year-old Deng because they are old friends, but that Deng requested there be no media coverage.

TV news and the official Xinhua news agency did not report the meeting.

Ershad arrived Thursday for a five-day state visit, his fifth since taking power in a 1982 coup. China is Bangladesh's main arms supplier and has provided some technical and financial development aid.

He left Beijing later today for the port city of Qingdao.

Deng, who is reportedly suffering from cancer, has retired from all his Communist Party and government posts but still has final say over policy and key decisions.

He said when he stepped down from his last party post last year that he would stop meeting foreign leaders, but he has made several exceptions recently.

He met in May with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and former West German chancellor Helmut Schmidt. Foreign journalists also were barred from those meetings and the Chinese media was silent on the Schmidt meeting.

In the past, Deng's meetings with foreign leaders were open to foreign journalists and provided the only opportunity to confirm the state of his health in the midst of periodic rumours that he is dead or dying.



Chinese Premier Li Peng (right) welcomes Bangladesh President Hussain Ershad in Beijing. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rivers overflow in Bangladesh annual floods

DHAKA, June 30. (AP) Overflowing rivers have flooded about 300 villages in northwestern Bangladesh this past week, stranding more than 600,000 people, news reports said.

The victims have sought shelter on levees and patches of raised ground. Many were living on roofs of concrete houses after thousands of mud-and-straw huts were swept away, the newspaper Ittefaq said.

"Many people have foodstuff with them, but there is no place to cook," the Bengali-language daily said.

Yesterday, a second flood embankment on the Jamuna river collapsed in the Sirajganj district, 100 km (60 miles) northwest of Dhaka, the agency United News of Bangladesh said.

The first flood embankment collapsed Thursday. So far 25 villages have been inundated by the two breaches, United News said.

Two children drowned Monday in Jamuna, the only deaths reported so far in this year's monsoon.

United News said about 400,000 people were stranded in Sirajganj and 200,000 in the neighbouring Bogra district.

Ittefaq quoted many unidentified villagers as saying that they did not have safe drinking water and medicines. Flooding is an annual problem in Bangladesh, a nation crisscrossed by rivers and where most land is a few metres (yards) above the sea level.

Bingo Day 8
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و انڈین پروگرام
و پیری ایل-۱
و دیپ کمد-نیل کور-سہاگلہ انوراحہ-جی-نہری
و وقت رکھنے والے سلطان-چندر-کریا-نہری
و اید و اجول (انڈین بیل) مکتل-نہری
و ڈاکٹر (سٹوڈنٹ) مسٹر-نہری
و فرزند ۱۹۹۰ (سٹوڈنٹ) مسٹر-نہری
و بچوں کی شہزادہ-نہری
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Irving Wallace

dies of cancer

Best-selling novelist

LOS ANGELES, June 30, (UPI): Irving Wallace, one of the world's best-selling novelists whose books invariably enjoyed a marathon run on blockbuster lists despite what the critics said, died yesterday of pancreatic cancer. He was 74.

Wallace died at Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre at 12:48 pm with his wife and children at his side, hospital spokesman Ron Wise said.

The author had entered the hospital June 26 and remained in serious condition until his death.

"He will be missed very much by his friends and his fans," said novelist Sidney Sheldon, a friend. "I thought he was a very good writer, and a keen researcher. And, unlike others, he only competed with himself."

"I think his books will be read for a long time."

The Saturday Review magazine in 1987 named Wallace among the most widely read authors in the world, with sales of his 33 books topping 194 million copies. The number of people who had read his books in all forms, the world over, was placed at 970 million.

Asked in 1974 what special characteristics made him a best-selling novelist, Wallace said:

"One is a persistent drive that has outlasted an incredible amount of failure. Another is a tremendous amount of curiosity. I'm never bored. Every book I read, every scene I'm witness to, every conversation has some reward."

Born in Chicago, on March 19, 1916, Wallace's family moved to Kenosha, Wisconsin, one year later where, as a young man, he earned a reputation as a fierce debater. The National Forensic League ranked him one of America's 10 best young public speakers in 1933.

But from 1956 on Wallace refused all offers for public speaking engagements, preferring to have his thoughts expressed in his books.

Wallace did not enjoy immediate acceptance as a writer. Although he sold his first short story at the age of 15, his writings did not enjoy wide popularity until 1955, when "The Chapman Report," his fifth book, became an international best seller.

Despite the artillery of critics, his best-sellers included "The Prize," "The Man," "The Plot," "The Word," "The Three Sirens," "The Seven Minutes," "The R. Document," "The Pigeon Project," and "The Second Lady."

Wallace authored more than 500 stories and articles. They



Irving Wallace

appeared in such magazines as "Esquire," "Cosmopolitan," "The Saturday Evening Post," "Collier," and "Reader's Digest."

Wallace used an easy-flowing style of writing with plots and sub-plots that were ideal for motion pictures. Among the actors appearing in movie versions of Wallace novels were Edward G. Robinson, Jane Fonda, James Earl Jones and David Janssen.

On June 3, 1941, Wallace married Sylvia Kahn, thus establishing a family responsible for selling tens of millions of books.

On her own, Sylvia Wallace has written two books, "The Fountain" and "Empress." In collaboration with her husband, she contributed to "The Book of Lists No. 2" and "The Intimate Sex Lives of Famous People."

Their son David, born in 1948, writes under his grandfather's original surname, Wallacechinsky, and is the author of 12 books, including collaborations with his father on "The People's Almanac" and "The People's Almanac 2."

Hottest show in town: Barry trial

Coarse, titillating, often sad

WASHINGTON, June 30, (Reuters): The hottest ticket in Washington is a pass into the federal courtroom, where the women in the life of Mayor Marion Barry have taken starring roles in the drama of his drug trial.

Former lover Rasheeda Moore accuses him from the witness stand and elegant wife Effi watches quietly from the gallery. The trial provides a raw inside look at a big-time black politician whose weaknesses of the flesh are on display for all the nation to see.

"This trial is not just some alleged criminal act on the part of Marion Barry," the mayor told reporters on the courthouse steps yesterday.

Technically, Barry's sexual conduct is not an issue in this case. His lawyers sought unsuccessfully to bar testimony about his sexual adventures because he is not charged with the crime of adultery.

But Judge Thomas Jackson allows such evidence if it is linked to use of illegal drugs.

Barry is charged with 14 drug-related crimes. Conviction on all counts could mean up to 26 years in prison and \$1.85 million in fines, though the maximum penalty is unlikely.

The courtroom drama is titillating, coarse and often sad. Jurors and spectators leaned forward in their seats to gaze at Moore, a former fashion model, when she first took the witness stand last week as a key prosecution witness.

Carefully made-up, wearing dark colours and dangling earrings, Moore testified she helped federal agents lure the mayor to a hotel where he smoked crack cocaine on January 18.

No one watches Moore more intently than Effi Barry, the mayor's wife of 12 years.

Tall, long-legged and swan-necked, she has usually been in the front row of the courtroom gallery testimony began two weeks ago.

Also a former fashion model, she tries to maintain her dignity, using her own religious faith for comfort in the storm.

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LONDON: Smokers may become as addicted to nicotine as users of illegal drugs are to heroin and cocaine, a British scientist has warned.

Professor Jeffrey Gray of the UK Institute of Psychiatry said that ninety per cent of those who try to give up smoking return to the habit within a year.

Extroverts and "sensation-seeking" personalities, who are attracted to risky activities, are more likely to try cigarettes and to find it harder to break the habit, he said.

He was speaking at the launch on Friday in London of a new book on nicotine dependence.

Gray said the smoking habit is enforced by the effect of nicotine on brain cells. (Kuna)

LONDON: Women who drink four or more cups of coffee a day are less likely to become pregnant than those who consume the beverage, US scientists wrote in a British medical magazine on Friday.

Harvard University researchers studying coffee consumption among 3,010 recent mothers said heavy coffee drinkers were 80 per cent more likely to take over a year to conceive than other women.

"Times to conception were longest for the 129 women who drank four or more cups of coffee per day," they wrote in the Lancet. (Reuters)

WASHINGTON: Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania studying the hair follicle have pinpointed a new section that they believe is responsible for hair growth — a finding they say could advance the search for a treatment for baldness.

The researchers' findings, published in today's issue of the journal "Cell," contradict accepted theories of how hair grows.

In fact, if the researchers' theories prove correct, anatomical drawings on what a hair shaft looks like would have to be redrawn.

Scientists long have believed that the lowest section of the hair follicle — called the bulb — is responsible for controlling hair growth. (Kuna)

PARIS: Millions of fish killed after a series of heavy thunderstorms led to increased pollution and an oxygen shortage in the water were floating in the Seine river near Paris Saturday, authorities said.

Firemen and other workers attempted to gather and dispose of as much as 80 tons of dead fish as possible as a heavy odour invaded surrounding communities along an 18 mile (30 km) area.

Authorities said the extreme heat of the past several days coupled with a series of violent thunderstorms led to a sharp reduction in the oxygen supply in the water, killing the fish. (UPI)

LONDON: A guard thwarted an escape attempt from a Central London prison Friday by ramming a truck into a mechanical digger five inmates were using to try and smash through jail walls in a bid for freedom that left six officers injured.

The Home Office, which oversees the nation's 125 penal institutions, reported the wounded had been discharged from a hospital after the 20-minute-long skirmish inside Wandsworth Prison in southwest London.

Officials reported five inmates overpowered a guard in the facility's exercise yard, and used his keys to enter a low security area where construction was underway. (UPI)

LOS ANGELES: "America's funniest home videos" has increased its payments to amateur videomakers. Instead of a single \$100,000 grand prize, the television programme will offer three \$100,000 awards in the fall season, entertainment president Robert Iger announced Thursday during the network's annual affiliates convention.

While the Sunday night programme has become enormously popular, it also has drawn criticism for showing videos of children and animals in potentially dangerous situations.

This year's \$100,000 grand prize winner went to footage of a man losing his trousers while trying to catch a baseball. (AP)

LONDON: Britain's leading animal protection group warned animal lovers Saturday against following the latest American pet craze. Keeping potbellied pigs.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals issued the warning after an inspector rescued a 5-month-old Vietnamese potbellied pig from a tiny London apartment where it was sleeping in a tea chest with no electricity or drainage.

RSPCA spokeswoman Amanda Avis said press reports had spoken of Americans keeping Vietnamese or Chinese potbellied pigs as fashion accessories, driving around in fast cars with the top down and the pigs in the passenger seat.

"Pets aren't fashion accessories or designer items. They are a tremendous commitment and responsibility. (AP)

CINCINNATI: Garlic ice cream, garlic beer and garlic oysters top the menu Saturday when some 1,000 garlic connoisseurs from the Midwest meet for what else — the annual Garlic Festival.

"We had about 800 garlic-lovers at last year's festival and should have about 1,000 this time," said Bill Cunningham, manager of Grammer's Restaurant, host of the aromatic affair.

The event is non-stop, wall-to-wall garlic.

"Because of the overpowering fragrance emitted during this event, the windows and doors shall be hung open to release some of the wonderful aromas so the entire city can share in its glory," said Cunningham. (UPI)

SAN FRANCISCO: Feminist leader Molly Yard on Friday condemned the Roman Catholic church's political activism on abortion.

In her keynote address at the conference of the National Organisa-

Zodiac Killer enjoys taunting police

NEW YORK, June 30, (UPI): Fifty detectives tracking the Zodiac killer are up against a weird individual who seems to enjoy taunting police as much as he does stalking victims.

The man who calls himself the Zodiac — and apparently patterned his savage attacks on defenceless victims on California's serial killer of the same name — has shot four people since March 8, killing one and wounding three.

He has vowed to stalk and kill a person from each of the 12 astrological signs and police believe he knew the signs of his four victims. He inscribed their zodiacal symbols on a series of taunting, cryptic notes.

And while police say the gunman questioned the latest victim about his astrological sign a few days before shooting him, investigators were baffled as to how he learned his other victims' birth dates.

Detectives have turned to astrologers, astronomers and classical scholars in an effort to decipher the notes, which contain references to classical mythology, constellations and signs of the Zodiac, police said.

Investigators on the special 50-detective task force set up to catch the killer do not believe he will strike again until July 26, the first Thursday of Leo, the next astrological period.

He only has attacked on Thursdays, in the early morning, striking at 21 or 42-day intervals. He stalked and shot his last victim, a 30-year-old homeless man sleeping on a bench in Central Park, June 21.

But detectives were taking no chances last Thursday and police beefed up patrols in the park and on the Brooklyn-Queens border, where "the other victims were attacked."

The gunman's third victim, 78-year-old Joseph Proce, who was shot May 31, died last Sunday from his wounds.

The shadowy killer's six notes were mailed to news organisations and police and left at two of the scenes where he struck.

The scrawled notes, replete with misspellings and bad grammar, boast of the shoot-ings and describe the victims.

The victims have been a Scorpio, Gemini, Taurus and Cancer. Police believe Leo is next.

In a bizarre twist to the mystery, the gunman wrote in the November note: "Taurus the first sign is dead." Proce was a Taurus and was the first to die.

Chief of detectives Joseph Borrelli has warned New Yorkers not to discuss their birth date with strangers.

Mayor David Dinkins has offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer and detectives said they were using a new computer system to analyse information and tips.

One possibility the police have ruled out is that the gunman is the same killer who terrorised the San Francisco area from 1966 to 1974 and claimed to have killed nearly 40 people. Police there believe he killed at least six. The crimes remain unsolved.

The gunman also claims in one note to be the San Francisco killer. But Robert Graysmith, who spent years writing "Zodiac," a book about the California killings, was unequivocal.

"It's not the same guy," said Graysmith, who was shaken when he learned of Proce's death.

tion for Women, a pioneering US women's rights group, Yard declared the 1990s "the decade of women" in politics and said abortion rights would be a critical election issue.

Women running for governor in three states — Diane Feinstein in California, Evelyn Murphy in Massachusetts and Barbara Roberts in Oregon — joined Yard in declaring abortion the predominant human rights and freedom issue of the 1990s. (AP)

LONDON: The London insurance market paid \$344.5 million Friday in settlement of the pollution cleanup from the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska in March 1989.

The Institute of London Underwriters, which represents the company marine insurance market, said it was the largest single marine claim ever paid by the London insurance market.

"Pollution cleanup resulting from the Exxon Valdez disaster and agreement of the claim was finalised only recently," said the institute's general manager, Peter Worsfold. (AP)

PEOPLE AND PLACES



American cyclist Kevin Foster holds his bicycle aloft after completing a journey of 1,600 miles along the Great Wall of China on bicycle on Friday. Foster ended the odyssey in Shanbaiguang where the wall meets the sea, becoming the first person to ride the length on bicycle. (Reuters wirephoto)

Biker finishes trip on Great Wall

BEIJING, June 30, (AP): American cyclist Kevin Foster, dodging startled guards who wanted to arrest him, whizzed down the last stretch of the Great Wall to reach the ocean yesterday completing his end-to-end journey on the ancient monument.

Four people who were waiting to greet Foster were questioned for about an hour, including two American businessmen who helped sponsor his journey.

"It was kind of an exciting ending but not the ending I planned," a sunburned and scratched Foster said after returning to Beijing by train. The scratches came from thorn bushes along the last stretch of wall.

He said the guards at Shanbaiguang, where the wall ends at the ocean, were startled to see him and a Chinese companion come shooting down the wall from a direction other than the ticket booth and turnstile for tourists.

Foster said he ducked out of sight while the guards

questioned Professor Li Wenyao of the Chinese Academy of Science's Institute of Geography. Foster's Chinese sponsor, a Chinese television reporter and Bill and Larry van Dyke, brothers and top officers of the US based Biko-matic Company, Foster's sponsor.

Foster, 30, a part-time actor from California set out May 11 to become the first person to bicycle on top of the wall from one end to the other.

He started at the wall's westernmost pass, Jiayuguan, in Gansu province, but had to skip a large stretch of wall that traverses a closed military area. He walked alongside other portions of wall that are in ruins, altogether bicycling just 1,174.8 miles (1,879.6 kilometres) of the wall's 3,700-mile (6,000-kilometre) length.

But Foster is still the first person to bicycle any substantial distance on the wall that China's emperors built more than 2,000 years ago to keep out foreigners.



JIMMY'Z

Hot n' Glassy Crystal Chambers Pumping Outside Slippery When Wet Coastal Cruising First Break Surf Safaris Cutback Kickout Goofy Foot Spinner Head Dip Sideslip Soul Arch Quasimoto Nose Tweak El Telephono Mysterioso Evening Glass Off Barefoot Adventure Rollercoaster Flyaway Hot Doggin' Bitchin' Spoonmeat Stoked n' Hooting E-Z in E-Z out Team Jimmy'z Sportwear



Al-Salmiya, Al-Wataniyah Building, Basement, opposite of Shaha Complex.

Aviles denies telling adviser

SAN SALVADOR, June 30, (UPI) — A Salvadoran colonel has denied he told an American military adviser that another colonel had confessed to having ordered the brutal murder of six Jesuit priests last November, the supreme court said Friday.

US Army Maj. Erick Buckland, an American adviser to the Salvadoran military, had testified that Col. Carlos Armando Aviles told him on Dec. 20, 1989 that Col. Guillermo Alfredo Benavides confessed to investigators in the Jesuit murder case. "I did it. What can you do to help me,"

Col. Benavides, three lower ranking officers and five soldiers have been charged with murder in the case.

But sources close to the investigation say there might not be enough evidence to convict Benavides, who was commanding officer at the military academy from which the mission to kill the Jesuits was launched on Nov. 16, 1989.

"The colonel (Aviles) denied ever having told the major (Buckland) about Benavides' alleged involvement in the conspiracy," the supreme court said in a statement.

If Buckland's story is true, military officers investigating the killings of the six Jesuits have concealed the evidence from the judge hearing the case.

Two lieutenants accused in the case told investigators they participated in the assassinations and were ordered by Benavides to kill the priests and leave no witnesses.

The confessions, however, are inadmissible as evidence against Benavides because under Salvadoran law co-defendants cannot testify against each other.

The Jesuit's housekeeper and her teenage daughter were also slain as they covered arm-in-arm in a back room at the priests' residence on the University of Central America campus.

A US congressional task force that looked into the Jesuit investigation, concluded that "the American major is telling the truth."

Human rights groups denounced the Salvadoran armed forces Friday for pressganging teenagers under 18 into the military less than a week after talks with rebels on military reductions ended without agreement.

"We have noticed a strong recruitment of youths that the army is carrying out across the entire country, which we consider unnecessary when they are talking about the demilitarization of society and of peace," Miguel Montenegro of the independent Human Rights Commission told United Press International.

Colombian guerrillas who had received \$60,000 in ransom on Friday afternoon freed an American gold miner kidnapped two months ago, an Ecuadorian government spokesman said.

Scott Heimdal "is with his family here in Quito, with his mother and father," said Patricia Norman, the embassy press attache. Norman said the family was in seclusion at an undisclosed site.

Nicaragua: The demobilisation of Nicaraguan Contras officially ended on Friday with dozens of rebels surrendering their weapons to UN troops sent to Nicaragua to oversee the end of an eight-year civil war, a UN spokesman said.

"The demobilisation has officially ended," spokesman Fernando Castanon told Reuters.

Panama: Fifteen bullets struck the US embassy and the US Marine guardhouse in Panama City early Friday, though no injuries were reported, an embassy spokeswoman said.

US embassy spokeswoman Jan Edmondson said eight bullets struck the lower floors of the embassy and seven struck the Marine guardhouse — barracks for US Marine personnel stationed in Panama City.

Haiti: Haiti's electoral council, which last week said that national elections could not be held until political violence ends, announced on Friday that it had scheduled elections for Nov. 4.

Council President Jean Robert Sabatier told reporters a date was set after the Army promised to guarantee security for the elections.

Brazil: Mudslides swept away houses in the northeastern city of Recife, killing 18 people, the fire department said Friday.

Fire department Lt. Gelmires Candido de Oliveira said torrential rains fell for nearly 12 hours, causing earth on hillsides to slip away and crush seven houses in Recife's poor northern section.



An aerial view shows the devastation left in the wake of one of several arson-related fires that swept through the hills of Santa Barbara. More than 600 homes and businesses were destroyed. (Reuters wirephoto)



A fire-fighter hoses down a hot spot among the remains of a house destroyed by a wildfire in the Park Highland area on Thursday. Over 500 other houses were at least 85 per cent damaged by flames as the fire raged through the Santa Ynez mountains, north of Santa Barbara. (Reuters wirephoto)

18,700 acres charred

Fire-fighter killed

SANTA BARBARA, California, June 30, (AP) — Milder winds and temperatures gave firefighters the upper hand yesterday against wildfires that engulfed more than 600 homes and businesses in six western states. One firefighter was killed yesterday.

Wildfires, most set by arsonists, charred more than 18,700 acres (7,573 hectares) by Thursday in an area north, east and south of Los Angeles. Arson was blamed for the Santa Barbara fire and another that charred 60 homes in the Los Angeles suburb of Glendale before it was contained.

"You're just lucky to have your life," said Kay O'Brien, who fled her Santa Barbara home with her husband carrying

only family pictures and a retirement watch. The home and all their possessions were lost.

Firefighters controlled blazes in Utah state and at Yellowstone National Park in Montana state, but large fires raged in Arizona, Texas and Colorado.

In Arizona, where six firefighters died Tuesday, a lightning fire in the Tonto National Forest destroyed a cabin built in the 1920s by western novelist Zane Grey. Officials said the 24,000-acre (9,720-hectare) forest fire has destroyed about 50 homes and forced the evacuation of more than 1,200 people.

An arson blaze in the Carbon Canyon area that straddles Orange and San Bernardino

counties blackened 6,640 acres (2,689 hectares) and destroyed at least 14 homes.

A 2,500-acre (911-hectare) blaze burning near Lake Henshaw in San Diego county forced the evacuation of a boy camp and 20 homes, authorities said.

Calm wind and overnight temperatures in the 50s F (30s C) helped 800 firefighters subdue the blaze around Los Angeles. Officials hoped to contain the fire by mid-day today, said Juanita Freil, spokeswoman for the US forest service.

A survey completed late Thursday found 524 structures destroyed in the heavily populated Santa Barbara county, including 315 single family homes.

Japanese make it abroad

Hero's welcome for Peru head

TOKYO, June 30, (UPI) — Japan has prepared a hero's welcome this week for Peru's president-elect Alberto Fujimori, the latest addition to a long list of Japanese nationals and descendants who have made it big by leaving Japan.

The combination of Japan's strong work ethic with the social mobility of Western societies has proven to be an almost sure recipe for success.

In a wide spectrum of fields — politics, business, science, the arts and entertainment — Japanese immigrants have reached the top in numbers far beyond what their numbers would suggest.

Fujimori, who arrives in Japan Sunday for a triumphant five-day tour of his parents' homeland, is the first Japanese descendant to win election as president of a Western nation. But he is only one of many Japanese immigrants who have been successful in politics.

Three Japanese descendants have been elected to the US Senate and three to House, even though the Japanese minority accounts for only 0.3 per cent of the US population.

In Brazil, the country with the largest Japanese population outside Japan, Japanese descendants have been appointed to the cabinet: the most popular television show is produced by a Japanese, and the giant government oil monopoly was run by a Japanese.

In the arts and entertainment, Boston Symphony Orchestra conductor Seiji Ozawa is considered one of the best conductors in the world. Actor Pat Morita, of Karate Kid fame, is a box office success. Yoko Ono, John Lennon's widow, is famous for her crusades for peace and protection of the environment.

Writer Kazuo Ishiguro, who was raised in

England, wrote "The Remains of the Day" one of the hottest books in England last year.

"They become successful because they leave Japan," said Iwao Nishikawa, editor of the Nichi Bei Times, a San Francisco-based newspaper for Japanese immigrants in the United States.

A powerful work ethic, honesty and devotion to their children's education are the keys to the success of the Japanese immigrants, said Nishikawa in a telephone interview from San Francisco.

Those same traits are so common in Japan they are often taken for granted.

In addition, the confirming nature of Japanese society often squeezes people into established roles, cutting them off from the fast track to success.

Japan values someone who happily conforms to the system more than someone who bucks the system to get ahead. In the process, creativity is suppressed.

Susumu Tonegawa, the 1987 Nobel prize winner for medicine and professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said he would not have won the award if he had stayed in Japan. Japan's rigid academic environment does not give scientists the room to explore and discover, he said.

For women the problem is intensified by established sex roles which limit most to child rearing and part-time jobs.

Mikiko Taga, a feminist author, says she has given up on Japan and advises Japanese women to move to the United States where they have more career options.

The Japanese who stay in Japan and conform to the system view those who leave with a combination of resentment and jealousy.

56 nations approve environment fund

Treaty to protect ozone layer toughened

LONDON, June 30, (AP) — Ministers from 56 countries approved the world's first global environment fund yesterday and toughened an international treaty to protect the ozone layer.

Many countries accused the United States of foot-dragging in negotiating changes to the 1987 Montreal protocol, which controls the production and use of ozone-depleting chemicals.

Ministers from at least a dozen countries, pointing to recent scientific studies on the alarming speed at which the ozone layer is being destroyed, urged a total ban on halons and chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) by 1997, with large cuts in the first few years.

The United States, Japan and the Soviet Union insisted the deadline for a 100 per cent ban be set at the year 2000, with big cuts at the end.

The 1987 protocol called for a 50 per cent cut in the chemicals by 2000.

The US schedule for phasing out CFCs would result in the release of 11 billion tonnes more of chemicals into the stratosphere, environmentalists said.

Treaty decisions are made by consensus and a deadline of 2000 was set by the ministers who also increased the list of "controlled" chemicals from eight to about 20.

Historic paper on rights adopted

COPENHAGEN, June 30, (Reuters) — Thirty-five nations ended a conference here on Friday after committing themselves to multi-party democracy and the rule of law in a declaration hailed as a landmark for human rights.

The declaration was agreed at the close of a four-week session of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), which groups the United States, Canada, the Soviet Union and all European countries except Albania.

"This is the most important CSCE document since the final act was adopted in Helsinki 15 years ago," Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen told a news conference.

"It takes full account of the dramatic changes that have taken place in East Europe and the Soviet Union," he said, adding that it was a sign "we have reached the point of no return on the way to a free and democratic Europe."

The central part of the 45-point document commits member states to pluralism, free elections, an independent judiciary and the separation of the state from political parties.

The document also increases the protection of individual's rights and recognises rights for national minorities.

Western diplomats said it was the first time the Soviet Union had formally committed itself to a document endorsing multi-party democracy.

The Copenhagen document prohibits 'torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment'.

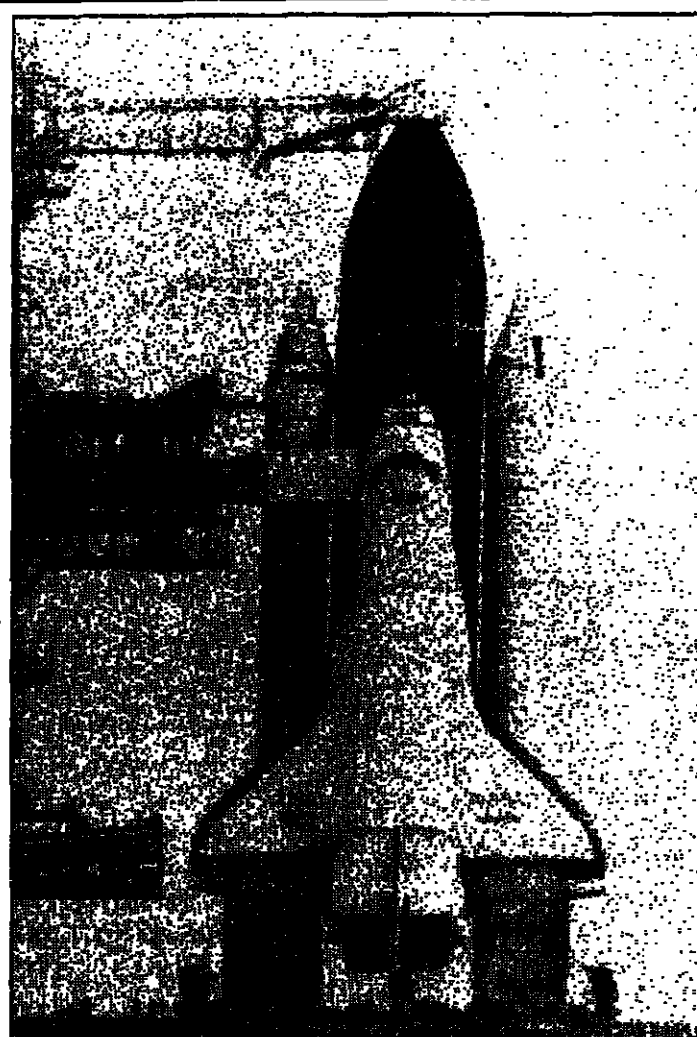
Danish proposals that states actively consider abolishing the death penalty, and that a permanent committee be set up to investigate complaints of human rights abuses, failed to be adopted.

Greece and other states resisted proposals that conscientious objection to military service should be considered as a right and alternative forms of service be allowed.

The most contentious aspect of the document was on national minorities, Ellemann-Jensen said. In central and southern Europe, ethnic conflicts have surfaced since the end of one-party communist rule.

The declaration says minorities have the right to use their languages, practice their religions, maintain cross-border contacts with people of the same group and establish their own schools and cultural and religious organisations.

Objections by France, Greece and later Bulgaria led to a hasty re-drafting of the section on minorities, and the final document limits the exercise of such rights by making them subject to a state's policies and laws.



The space shuttle Atlantis, shown on the launch pad, sprang a leak during a special fueling test on Friday. The leak, similar to one that grounded the shuttle Columbia on May 2, caused NASA officials to temporarily ground the shuttle fleet until the cause of the leak can be determined. (Reuters wirephoto)

Nasa grounds space shuttles

Fuel leak in Atlantis

CAPE CANAVERAL, June 30, (Reuters) — Problem mounted for the US space programme on Friday when Nasa was forced to ground its space shuttle fleet temporarily due to a fuel leak in the shuttle Atlantis.

The leak resembled one that grounded the space shuttle Columbia and the \$148 million Astro observatory on May 29. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which also has a third shuttle, Discovery, promptly announced there would be no shuttle flights until further notice.

William B. Lenoir, Nasa's spaceflight chief, said a planned July 15 flight of Atlantis on a secret military mission had been postponed indefinitely.

"There is no question that we will not fly until we understand the problem and have it fixed," Lenoir, a former astronaut, told a news conference here.

The development plunged the space programme into further disarray.

A Senate committee yesterday opened hearings into how the \$2.5 billion Hubble space telescope came to be launched in April containing a flawed mirror

that will delay for years, and perhaps indefinitely, 40 per cent of its experiments.

The Hubble, designed to probe the secrets of the universe, has not operated properly since shuttle astronauts left it in orbit. In addition to the mirror problem, it wobbles and turns itself off as it passes in and out of sunlight.

It was unclear on Friday whether the grounding of the shuttle fleet would delay a shuttle mission scheduled for 1993 to repair the Hubble.

Technicians partially fuelled Atlantis on Friday as a test before beginning the final two weeks of preparations for next month's classified mission, Nasa officials said. They detected the leak during the test.

Robert Sieck, director of shuttle launches at the Kennedy Space Centre, said it was smaller than the one that grounded Columbia as it was being fuelled for launch on May 29.

In both cases there was an abnormal buildup of hydrogen propellant in a feedline that transfers fuel from the shuttle's huge orange external tank into its rocket engines during liftoff.

Quebec's desire for independence

Queen deeply concerned

CALGARY, Canada, June 30, (UPI) — Queen Elizabeth II, who found herself caught up in Canada's unity crisis, yesterday expressed deep concern about the political turmoil and internal divisions turned by Quebec's desire for independence.

The Queen will visit Hull, Quebec on July 1, but civic leaders there said they would not meet the monarch.

The Queen, who made a brief speech during a dinner hosted by Alberta Premier Don Getty, said she had followed recent events, including the collapse of a constitutional amendment aimed at averting Quebec's secession, with "deep concern."

"Prayers and hopes" that the unity crisis would be resolved and that her presence in Canada would be a reminder of less disruptive times in the past while

providing hope for the future. Earlier yesterday, Canada's native Indian leaders, left out of recent constitutional talks, sought reassurances from Queen Elizabeth II of their right to self-government.

The so-called Treaty Seven nations, which included several Stoney and Blackfoot Indian bands and the Sarcee nation, presented the monarch with a petition signed by native Indians.

The petition asks the Queen to reaffirm their right to self-government and to use her influence on Canada's political leaders to have aboriginals recognised as a distinct society in the constitution.

"She said she would take it and read it later. She will study it," Sarcee chief Roy Whitney said after meeting with the Queen.

Whitney also said he was told by

"We believe it is necessary and possible to do better than this timetable," said West German Environment Minister Klaus Töpfer. "Unfortunately, three countries refused to go along."

William Reilly, administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency, said he was content with agreement.

"I think it was a very successful conference," he said, adding that when the treaty parties meet again in 1992 they would "see if a case can be made for accelerating the schedule."

The conference agreed to a phase-out schedule that would cut CFCs by 20 per cent in 1993 and 50 per cent in 1995 before the final ban. Reilly promised that the United States would stay ahead of the schedule.

The 30-page amendment to the treaty also banned carbon tetrachloride by the end of the century and eliminated methyl chloroform by 2005.

HCFCs, chemicals being developed and sold to replace CFCs, also destroy ozone, although to a lesser extent. The United States failed in an attempt to get HCFCs, introduced in the protocol. The European Economic Community opposed.

Without long term guarantees on HCFCs, "we have no real assurance that the solution of today will not be the problem of tomorrow," said David Doniger of the Washington-based Natural Resources Defence Council.

The most heated conflict emerged between developing countries and poorer nations over the transfer of technology that would allow them to produce CFC substitutes.

On Thursday, India's Environment Minister Maneka Gandhi issued an ultimatum that her country would not stop producing CFCs or sign the protocol unless it received guarantees they would have access to the new technology.

But on Thursday night India received assurance from the two chemical giants Dupont and ICI that they would not withhold the knowledge, and the problem, for the moment, was resolved.

The unprecedented \$240 million ozone fund, seen by many as a model for solving other, more costly environmental problems, will be funded by developed nations to help poorer countries convert to technology that does not use CFCs or other ozone-depleting chemicals.

China and India, which announced during the conference that they would recommend their governments sign the protocol, will each receive \$40 million over the next three years after they accede. Bringing the countries into the treaty was considered vital since each has a huge population and the ability to produce CFCs to meet growing domestic demand.

The ozone-depleting chemicals are used in electronics, foam blowing, fire extinguishers, aerosols and refrigeration.

"This is an extraordinary achievement," said Richard Benidick, who led the US delegation at the conference in Montreal and was in London as an observer.

the federal government's office of protocol that the Queen would address the natives' concerns when she returns to Britain.

The meeting took place at the sprawling Spruce Meadows equestrian centre where the monarch, together with several thousand Canadians, watched the second round of the Queen Elizabeth II show-jumping competition.

As the Queen arrived, natives in ceremonial costumes performed traditional dances and beat hypnotic rhythms on a large buckskin drum.

In 1887, 20 years after Canada was established as a confederation, Canadian, British and Indian representatives signed the Treaty Seven acknowledging the natives' right to self-government.



Robert Bourassa

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Goodbye to Peace Corps

Philippine President Corason Aquino (centre) bids goodbye to a group of US Peace Corps volunteers during a meeting at the presidential palace in Manila on Thursday. (Reuters wirephoto)



Wrestling in parliament

Kim Dong-In (left), a member of South Korea's Democratic Liberal Party, wrestles with opposition Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) lawmaker Chung Sang-Yang in a late parliamentary session on Friday after allegations the ruling party misappropriated government funds during the presidential election in December 1987. (Reuters wirephoto)

Fang wants peace, quiet

LONDON, June 30. (Reuters): Chinese dissident Fang Lizhi yesterday made his first public appearance since arriving in Britain but said all he wanted was peace and quiet.

Flanked by his wife and son, Fang read a brief statement to reporters outside the Royal Society, a scientific body which has secured the astrophysicist a professorship at Cambridge University.

"I would like to repeat how grateful we are to the Royal Society and to Cambridge University for their invitation to us and the hospitality extended to us," said Fang, 54.

"We now look forward to pursue our academic work. We do not wish to answer any questions about political matters or to give any interviews. We look forward to a period of peace and quiet."

Fang and his wife Li Shuxian, also a physicist, arrived in Britain on an American military transport plane on Monday night.

The couple had sought refuge inside the US embassy in Beijing after the army massacre that followed pro-democracy demonstrations last June.

Chinese authorities vilified them as traitors for much of the last year, but suddenly announced the couple had been allowed out of the embassy to go abroad for medical treatment.

Two Koreas talks Tuesday

South for free trade

SEOUL, June 30. (UPI): In a sign the cold war may be waning on the Korean peninsula, South Korea is proposing free trade and traffic with the communist North as the two sides prepare for talks for the first time in nearly six months.

Officials of the two Koreas are scheduled to get together Tuesday at the truce village of Panmunjom, 35 miles (56 km) north of Seoul, to resume talks aimed at a South-North meeting of prime ministers to discuss major political and military issues.

It will be the first contact between the two sides since January when North Korea unilaterally broke off all channels of dialogue protesting a routine annual military exercise involving American and South Korean forces.

The Tuesday meeting is likely to be followed by resumed contacts through other channels — talks for a full inter-Korean parliamentary conference, economic co-operation and exchanges of home visitors.

South Korea, encouraged by reforms in Eastern Europe and the rapid move toward unification of East and West Germany, said it hopes for similar movement in one of the last bastions of the cold war.

President Roh Tae-Woo said yesterday his government will allow open trade and transport between the Koreas and will actively support economic co-operation with socialist nations helping to promote Korean reunification.

Taking advantage of the third anniversary of his June 29, 1987, "declaration of political reforms," Roh made a new call for expanded co-operation and exchanges between South and North Korea.

Roh, who met Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in San Francisco on June 4 in the first top-level contact between South Korea and the Soviet Union, noted that relations between Moscow and Beijing are being normalised and positive changes are occurring on the Korean peninsula.

Roh said: "The prolonged cold war on the (Korean peninsula) has already started to ease. I am confident that the 1990s will finally see peaceful reunification (of the two Koreas) materialise."

"It is evident that the real motive force behind the ongoing process of German unification is the economic clout of West Germany. Accordingly, we must foster sufficient economic capabilities to ensure the well-being and prosperity of all Koreans," he said.

"Toward that end, we must transcend politics to realise inter-Korean exchanges of goods, technology and capital to meet each other's needs."

At 78, North Korean leader Kim Il Sung appears to have no serious health problems, South Korean intelligence officials said yesterday.

former president told Deng. Deng responded by suggesting "a simple way out," according to a transcription of their conversation.

"Fang Lizhi must give a written statement confessing to crimes, and the American side must give assurances that Fang Lizhi will not be permitted to carry out activities against the PRC government abroad. After this, China can take some measures," Deng said.

Deng told Nixon that he had "not consulted with my colleagues about this idea or proposal."

During a meeting on Oct 31, 1989, inside the Great Hall of the People, Nixon told Deng that in his 17 years of watching Sino-US relations, "there has never been a worse crisis."

"I have some suggestions as to small steps, symbolic steps, that would give President Bush ammunition to fight longtime opponents of China and reassure those who would want to be friends," the

former president told Deng. Deng responded by suggesting "a simple way out," according to a transcription of their conversation.

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Imelda could be convicted of fraud

Jurors considering accusation against Khashoggi

NEW YORK, June 30. (AP): The judge in the trial of Imelda Marcos told jurors the former Philippine first lady could be convicted of fraud even if she didn't loot the Filipino Treasury herself.

US district judge John F. Keenan told the jury before it began deliberations Thursday that Imelda can be found guilty if she "closed her eyes" to the theft.

She is accused of having helped her late husband, former Philippines president Ferdinand Marcos, embezzle more than \$220 million from their country. The money allegedly was invested in US real

estate, jewellery and artworks with the help of Saudi financier Adnan Khashoggi.

Deliberations resumed yesterday morning. Jurors were sequestered in a hotel when not deliberating.

Imelda, who turns 61 Monday, faces up to 50 years in prison and a \$1 million fine if convicted of racketeering, racketeering conspiracy, mail fraud and obstructing justice.

The jurors also were considering mail fraud and obstruction of justice charges against Khashoggi, 54. He could draw a

10-year prison term and \$500,000 in fines if convicted.

Imelda's knowledge was a central theme in closing arguments by both sides earlier in the week.

The prosecutor, assistant US attorney Charles Labelle, said the former Philippine first lady had to know "dirty money" was used to buy four New York buildings, jewellery and art work.

Her attorney, Gerry Spence, denied that she was aware of the transactions and said the case was a prosecutor's fantasy. Khashoggi allegedly served as a front to

conceal the Marcoses' ownership of four New York buildings and artworks after the couple were ousted from power in February 1986 and the new Philippine government sued to recover their riches.

Keenan dismissed five alternate jurors and requested they not discuss the case with reporters until after a verdict.

As jurors filed from the courtroom to hold their first meeting, friends and well-wishers embraced Imelda, whose eyes brimmed with tears.

"Pray for me a happy birthday," she told a reporter.

Political reform to continue: Jiang

BEIJING, June 30. (UPI): Communist Party leader Jiang Zemin asserted in a speech published today that political reform would continue in China, but he warned it will be aimed at strengthening communist leadership and ruled out Western-style democratic change.

In the address, carried by the official Xinhua news agency, Jiang also acknowledged that government corruption and self-interest have contributed to a sharp decline in the party's prestige and called for better education on the party's 49 million members.

The speech, made at the party symposium last December, will be published in tomorrow's edition of the monthly party journal "Seeking Truth." Xinhua did not explain why it was held for nearly seven months.

Anniversary

The release was timed for tomorrow's 69th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese Communist Party in 1921. Chinese leaders have increasingly used such occasions to try to rally the country since last year's crackdown on the pro-democracy movement.

China's programme of political reform — separating the party from government, and government from industry — has been virtually moribund since the June 1989 crackdown, with party leaders reasserting hard-line ideology and tighter political control.

Jiang, however, insisted that "China's political reform will continue."

"But this reform is designed to strengthen and improve leadership by the Communist Party rather than weakening or ruling out Communist Party leadership," he said, adding China would not permit any kind of "multi-party system or dual-party system from the West."

"That absolutely would not work," he said, noting such a system would be "against the history and practical conditions of China."

He warned every party member must "adhere to the principle of democratic centralism," and bend to the will of the leadership. He conceded that "discipline is regarded to this had become slack in the previous few years."

"Some party members, especially leading persons, failed to adhere to the principle of democratic centralism, made arbitrary decisions and took peremptory actions," he said.

Oppose

"Some others attempted to develop an opposition faction inside the party and openly opposed the party's line and guiding principles," Jiang added.

The criticism was believed aimed at Jiang's predecessor, Zhao Ziyang, and the moderate political leaders and economic reformers who supported him. Zhao was ousted as party chief in late June 1989 for allegedly having supported last year's democracy protests.

But Jiang acknowledged that in recent years, "corruption and seeking private interests through one's position have increased and the punishments have not been effective, which has led to discontent and worry among the people."

"Together with provocations from reactionary forces both at home and abroad, and trouble caused by those with ulterior motives, such discontent and worry have severely damaged the party's relationship with the people."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

America

Dimitrios to visit US: Patriarch Dimitrios I, spiritual leader of 250 million Orthodox Christians, arrives on Monday on a trip aimed at pressing his plan for a meeting to bring together the leaders of his churches.

Archbishop Iakovos, who heads the Greek Orthodox church in the Western Hemisphere, said the patriarch wants to cultivate the religious changes brought by political change in Eastern Europe. Orthodoxy is the predominant religion in many of those countries.

The aim of the meeting would be to give guidance and suggestions on what role religion should play in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, the archbishop said. (AP)

New pact on military bases: Greece and the United States will sign a new defence pact on July 8 allowing American air force and navy bases to remain in this country, Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis said on Friday.

He told a foreign press luncheon the new Greek-US accord covering American bases would be signed during a four-day visit by US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney.

Negotiators for the two sides initiated an eight-year pact on May 30, effectively ending years of bitter disputes and tough talks on the US presence in Greece. (Reuters)

Conviction overturned: A federal appeals court on Friday overturned the extortion convictions of former US Congressman Robert Garcia and his wife on charges of extorting payoffs from the scandal-plagued Wedtech Corp.

The 2nd US circuit court of appeals reversed the October verdict, ruling that the year-old Garcia and his wife, Jane Lee, never threatened Wedtech — a now-defunct defence contractor — or its officers with economic harm. (AP)

Excommunication: The director of an abortion clinic has been excommunicated from the Roman Catholic church.

Bishop Rene H. Gracida of the Corpus Christi diocese banned Rachel Vargas from receiving church sacraments, holding church office or receiving a Christian burial, according to a formal excommunication decree dated June 1.

An abortion rights leader said it is the first time a bishop has formally expelled someone over the issue, but a church spokesman said there was at least one prior case in the United States. (AP)

US military media: The chairman of the joint chiefs of staff has ordered senior commanders to give "personal attention" to arranging pooled news coverage of military operations, conceding that the arrangements were faulty during the US invasion of Panama.

"Although the media was deployed, it was unable to cover military action until the second day and, consequently, did not perform as planned" during the December invasion, said Gen Colin L. Powell.

Powell's message was sent to service chiefs and commanders-in-chief of military commands. (AP)

Stolen German art: The Dallas museum of art will be allowed to display medieval German art treasures allegedly stolen from the Lutheran church in East Germany until a federal court determines their rightful owners, a museum official said Friday.

Joe T. Meador, a former army officer who died in 1980, is suspected of taking jewel-encrusted religious manuscripts, coins and other objects found hidden in a German mine shaft at the close of World War II and shipping them home to Whitehouse, Texas, 60 miles (100 km) northeast of Dallas. (UPI)

Fewer stars: Defence Secretary Dick Cheney has decided there will be fewer stars in the US military uniform and will cut 78 general and admirals over the next four years, it was announced on Thursday.

The move is part of an effort to cut back the military, both to save money and to adjust to lessened East-West tensions, Defence Department spokesman Pete Williams said.

Currently, there are 1,073 such positions in the US military — 407 generals in the army, 338 in the air force, 70 in the marine corps and 258 flag officers in the navy.

The cut will bring the new level to 995 such slots by 1995. (AP)



Guarding the dead

A masked gunman stands guard over one of two mourners killed in the funeral procession of Benjamin Tabuena, a suspected communist gunman slain in a clash with police last week, just before it entered a Manila cemetery on Thursday. (Reuters wirephoto)



'Jolly lucky'

Britain's Prince Charles, in hospital with a broken right arm after falling from his polo pony said on Friday he felt "jolly lucky" the rest of him was in one piece.

The 41-year-old heir to the throne was said to be in pain but cheered by visits from Princess Diana (shown above at the wheel of her Jaguar car). Doctors at Charing Cross Memorial Hospital in western England said he would not be discharged on Friday.

"It's a bad fracture, a bad break and his arm is still swollen," said Prince Charles' spokesman

Dickie Arbiter. But David Leahy, a regional health officer who visited the prince, described him as extremely cheerful.

"He is exactly what you would expect, very gutsy," Leahy told reporters. "He must be in an immense amount of pain but he won't show it."

Leahy said Prince Charles, who tumbled from his mount while playing in a tournament on Thursday, told him he felt "jolly lucky" his right arm was all he had broken. (Reuters wirephoto)

Hiding in Tahiti

Brando girl has girl

PAPEETE, Tahiti, June 30. (Reuters): Cheyenne Brando, the daughter of US film star Marlon Brando, has given birth to a baby girl, hospital sources said today.

Both Cheyenne and the baby were doing well, the sources added.

A prosecution lawyer said in Los Angeles on Monday that Cheyenne fled to the Pacific island of Tahiti to avoid testifying in murder trial.

Lawyer Steven Barshop said she is refusing to give evidence against her half-brother, Christian, who is charged with murdering her Tahitian boyfriend Dag Drollet, who is the father of the child.

Drollet was killed in Los Angeles in May.

Hubble trouble: A leading US senator on Friday blasted troubles with the Hubble space telescope on NASA's appetite for grandiose projects, charging that the US space agency had scrimped on Hubble testing to fuel future missions to Mars and the moon.

"I think that presently NASA's eyes are bigger than its stomach," said Tennessee Democrat Al Gore, chairman of the Senate commerce committee's space subcommittee.

In more bad news for the space agency, the hearings into the problem-plagued Hubble project coincided with NASA's temporary grounding of its entire shuttle fleet on Friday because of a mysterious fuel leak on two of the three craft. (Reuters)

Environmentalists warn: Environmentalists charge that the US government's plans to balance the interests of loggers against survival of the northern spotted owl are an assault on the nation's endangered species act.

The administration of President George Bush on Tuesday announced preliminary plans for saving the owl by restricting logging in the northwest. At the same time, the administration asked for relaxation of the 1973 endangered species act.

2 held in Taiwan

Exam cheating

TAIPEI, June 30. (Reuters): In Taiwan's pressure-cooker of academic competition, electronic papers and special transmitters have replaced scribbled notes as the way to cheat on university entrance examinations.

Taiwan's bureau of investigation yesterday arrested two men accused of setting up an electronic network to relay answers to testing rooms in this year's joint university entrance examination, a statement said today.

The statement said 160 students had paid 50,000 Taiwan dollars (about \$1,800) each to register for the electronic cheating service.

Students who passed the examination and made it into a national university would have to pay the syndicate an additional 150,000 Taiwan dollars (\$5,500).

The national examination begins tomorrow and lasts until July 3. Some 120,000 students registered for the test are competing for 43,816 places in Taiwan's 41 universities.

Europe

Soviet hijacking toll: One hundred and twenty people have been killed and more than 200 injured in hijackings or attempted air piracy against Soviet aircraft over the last 32 years, once-classified KGB figures reveal.

The newspaper Rabochaya Tribuna said data released for the first time show there have been 63 hijackings or attempts, with plots by some 500 conspirators foiled by security forces. (Reuters)

France to take delivery: The French Air Force will take delivery of the first four Awaacs it has ordered next May, it was announced in Paris Saturday by the Press Service of the Air Force (Sipa Air).

The \$550 million contract for the four Awaacs (Airborne Warning and Control System) signed with Boeing in February 1987, included a 130 per cent offset agreement.

The Awaacs, to be handed over to the air force on May 22 1991, is scheduled to be flown over to France next October and stationed for two months at the Bourget military airport, in the northern suburb of Paris where it will be fitted with the transmission system, Sipa Air said.

Soviet policemen charged: Five Soviet policemen have been arrested on charges of raping and murdering a mother of six in the Ukrainian mining city of Makayevka, authorities said Thursday.

The policemen were on duty on June 10 when they left their normal patrol route, bought a bottle of vodka, and went with the woman to a deserted country home, said Sergei Melkovsky, a reporter for the newspaper Sotsialistichesky Donbass.

12 priests ordained: A breakaway Roman Catholic group, whose leaders were excommunicated two years ago, ordained 12 new priests on Friday.

A spokeswoman said the dozen — seven Frenchmen, two Americans, a New Zealander, a Spaniard and a Swiss — were ordained by former British Anglican Priest Richard Williamson.

Williamson was one of four bishops ordained by the traditionalist group's leader, Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, two years ago. (Reuters)

AP correspondent dies: Trudy Studer, chief parliamentary correspondent for the Swiss service of the Associated Press, died Friday after suffering a heart attack. She was 41.

Ms. Studer joined the Associated Press in 1981 and played a major role in building up its domestic service in Switzerland. She was vice-president of the Association of Parliamentary Correspondents.

She is survived by a 5-year-old son. (AP)

Asia

Chinese couple defect: A married couple has defected from the Chinese consulate in Melbourne, bringing to nine the number of Chinese diplomatic staff who have defected since the Beijing massacre last year, immigration officials said Friday.

The couple, who have not been identified, defected during the past two weeks and have applied for refugee status, a spokesman said. (UPI)

China pledges: China has promised not to interfere in Indonesian internal affairs as a precondition for normalisation of diplomatic relations, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said Friday.

Indonesia has made a similar pledge to China, said Alatas, who was to fly to Beijing Sunday to discuss when the two countries will restore diplomatic ties.

In line with that agreement, Indonesia has not made any promises about how it will deal with Chinese living in Indonesia or prisoners who were arrested during the abortive 1965 communist coup attempt, Alatas told reporters. (AP)

China floods kill 108: Torrential rains and flooding have killed 108 people in south-west Yunnan province, the semi-official China news service reported Sunday.

From June 18-22, heavy rains bombarded 98 Yunnan counties, damaging 74,128 acres (30,000 hectares) of farmland and destroying more than 1,000 houses, CNS said.

The disastrous flooding submerged an entire herd of livestock and damaged an organised 50,000 buildings. Local governments organised emergency rescue teams across Yunnan, which borders Laos, Vietnam and Burma to the south. (UPI)

Nixon twice pressed for Fang release: report

WASHINGTON, June 30. (AP): Former US President Richard M. Nixon twice pressed Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping to release dissident Fang Lizhi to improve US-Chinese relations, according to documents made available yesterday to the Associated Press.

During a private October visit and in an April follow-up letter, Nixon spokesman John Taylor confirmed yesterday.

The Chinese astrophysicist and his wife, Li Shuxian, arrived in England Tuesday after taking refuge inside the US embassy in Beijing for more than a year, starting shortly after the June 1989 crack-

down on pro-democracy demonstrators. President George Bush and other US officials had been calling publicly for Fang and Li to be allowed to leave China.

During a meeting on Oct 31, 1989, inside the Great Hall of the People, Nixon told Deng that in his 17 years of watching Sino-US relations, "there has never been a worse crisis."

"I have some suggestions as to small steps, symbolic steps, that would give President Bush ammunition to fight longtime opponents of China and reassure those who would want to be friends," the

former president told Deng. Deng responded by suggesting "a simple way out," according to a transcription of their conversation.

"Fang Lizhi must give a written statement confessing to crimes, and the American side must give assurances that Fang Lizhi will not be permitted to carry out activities against the PRC government abroad. After this, China can take some measures," Deng said.

Deng told Nixon that he had "not consulted with my colleagues about this idea or proposal."

During a meeting on Oct 31, 1989, inside the Great Hall of the People, Nixon told Deng that in his 17 years of watching Sino-US relations, "there has never been a worse crisis."

"I have some suggestions as to small steps, symbolic steps, that would give President Bush ammunition to fight longtime opponents of China and reassure those who would want to be friends," the

INTERNATIONAL

KPNLF fears Khmer takeover

BANGKOK, June 30. (Reuters): Cambodian guerrillas said today they were pushing urgently for another round of peace talks because they feared the Khmer Rouge — nominally their allies — might head for outright military victory alone.

Speaking to Reuters by telephone, senior officials of two non-communist factions backed by the United States and China said the Khmer Rouge were expanding operations which might upset any balance in the peace process.

"We are very afraid the Khmer Rouge will harden their position once they are not so far from Phnom Penh. We don't want them to reach Phnom Penh before a political settlement," said Ieng Mouly, secretary-general of the Republican Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF).

The ultra-radical Khmer Rouge, who 15 years ago rode to power by subduing a much better-equipped army than they now face, have in recent weeks attacked several towns near the capital, causing tens of thousands of civilians to flee their homes.

They have also ruptured communications between Phnom Penh and outlying cities.

"They are definitely operating in eastern provinces where they weren't before," Ieng Mouly said.

Muscles

Diplomats said the Khmer Rouge were keen to stay within political moves to end the war but would not be slow to flex their military muscles if US and Thai efforts to isolate them continued.

"When they are alone they are arrogant," said Truong Mealy of the Sihanouk faction. "They must not be left out."

Senior officials from both the KPNLF and Prince Norodom Sihanouk's faction said the Khmer Rouge looked far stronger than a few months ago while the Phnom Penh government was looking increasingly unstable.

In the last month Phnom Penh has arrested senior officials, including at least one minister, and said it foiled a coup d'état. Diplomats said the situation was confused but had undermined the prestige of Hun Sen's government at home and abroad.

KPNLF President Son Sann this week called on Thailand's retired General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh to bring all four factions together for talks ahead of a gathering of permanent members of the United Nations Security Council on July 15.

The nation newspaper today said Chavalit, who resigned this month as defence minister, would meet Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan and former head of state Sihanouk within the next few days. The paper quoted him as saying he was also in contact with Hun Sen.

The latest attempt to reach agreement between the tripartite coalition and the Vietnamese-installed government in Phnom Penh broke down in Tokyo earlier this month after the Khmer Rouge refused to abide by a modified ceasefire agreement.

Diplomats and officials from both sides have said the communiqué, signed by Sihanouk and Hun Sen and calling for a supreme national council to be formed by the end of July, means little if the Khmer Rouge disown it.

The two non-communist factions have little military strength but are regarded by the West as the only credible buffer against the communist government in Phnom Penh and the internationally-reviled Khmer Rouge.

Under Pol Pot's leadership during the 1970s the Khmer Rouge were responsible for the deaths of one million Cambodians before being ousted by Vietnamese troops in 1978-9. Hanoi installed a pro-Vietnam government which has ruled since then.

Capture

Khmer Rouge guerrillas claim the capture of Siem Reap, a key northwestern Cambodian city and site of the ancient Angkor Temples, is "imminent," a media report seen today said.

The clandestine Khmer Rouge radio said the pro-Hanoi government in Cambodia was forced to declare a state of emergency and impose a dusk-to-dawn curfew in Siem Reap.

The broadcast, monitored in Bangkok Thursday, said Siem Reap's defenders were fearful since the guerrilla force were "coming closer and the liberation of the town is imminent."

The great temples of Angkor, including Angkor Wat, are located on the outskirts of Siem Reap. Proposals have been made in the past to declare the area a neutral zone to prevent their destruction.

Malan denounces Mandela for not bringing peace

PRETORIA, June 30. (AP): The defence minister denounced Nelson Mandela today for touring the world instead of helping end violence in South Africa and questioned the black leader's commitment to peace and democracy.

In a highly critical speech, Defence Minister Mangos Malan said Mandela's refusal to renounce armed struggle was an obstacle to ending racial conflict. He charged Mandela's African National Congress was a threat to peace.

"At this stage the ANC advocates stay-aways (strikes) which damage people's interests and needs. It is therefore against the people. It is anti-people," Malan said. "With their further demands they transgress the boundaries of democratic behaviour."

The speech at the annual Armed Forces Day parade was the harshest attack by a government leader on Mandela and the ANC since President FW de Klerk began major reforms in February. Military officials said they did not know if Malan's speech had

been cleared by De Klerk.

Malan, a former general who reportedly has a strong following in the military, delivered the speech at a major display of troops, tanks, guns, planes and other equipment to mark the armed forces' 78th anniversary.

Malan, flanked by senior generals, said the military could halt fighting, but only political leaders could build peace. He criticised Mandela for spending much of his time overseas instead of working for peace.

"At this point of time he is the most

over-publicised politician in the world media," Malan said.

Mandela is on a tour of the United States, where he has received a frenzied welcome, after visits to Europe and Africa. He returns to South Africa July 18.

Malan said Mandela's statements overseas and his refusal to renounce the ANC's armed struggle were a major barrier to starting talks on ending white minority rule. He questioned the ANC's commitment to a peaceful solution to South Africa's racial divisions.

"Is it the objective to use negotiations as a cloak to replace the existing order by an ANC regime?" he asked.

Mandela is under pressure by some South African and foreign leaders to formally renounce violence. Mandela says he cannot renounce violence until the government meets conditions, including pulling troops out of black townships.

The ANC's military campaign is virtually non-existent. Mandela is reluctant to formally renounce the movement's armed struggle for fear of

losing support among militant blacks.

Malan hinted that the military would not allow any ANC seizure of power. "The fact is the South African defence force represents the biggest obstacle in the way of an ANC-backed takeover by force," he said.

Malan reportedly is under pressure within the government because of charges that secret military units killed anti-apartheid activists. South African press reports have claimed Malan was aware of illicit activities and a government commission is investigating the matter.



Buddhists demand

About 10,000 Buddhists staged a silent procession in the capital Saturday, demanding the future constitution declare Nepal a secular state.

Demonstrators marched through the city centre carrying banners and placards reading "declare Nepal a secular state" and "there cannot be democracy within a Hindu state".

This is the second time in eight days that Buddhists took out a procession demanding that the kingdom, which presently is described as a Hindu state, be declared secular.

During the first procession, the Buddhists took a collection of signatures to the constitution reforms commission demanding that the world's only Hindu kingdom be no

longer described as Hindu.

Buddhists and Hindus had lived in harmony for centuries in Nepal and Hindus consider Lord Buddha as the 10th incarnation of a Hindu god.

But with the freedom that followed a democracy movement this year that led to multi-party government for the first time in 29 years, Buddhists are asserting an independent identity.

Religion has become a very emotional issue and the chairman of the constitution recommendations commission, Bishwa Nath Upadhyaya, has said, "instead of suggestions on crucial issues, suggestions had mainly been on such issues as community, religion and language." (Reuters wirephoto)

Imperial Palace irked

Candid wedding photo

TOKYO, June 30. (AP): The Imperial Household Agency, official caretakers of Japan's imperial family, said today it may fire a photographer for taking a picture of newly married prince and his wife before they struck the proper pose.

In a solemn and tradition-filled ceremony yesterday, graduate student Kiko Kawashima, 23, wed Prince Aya, who is second in line to Japan's chrysanthemum throne. Princess Kiko is only the second commoner to marry into Japan's ancient royal family.

At an official picture-taking session after the wedding, photographer Toshiaki Nakayama took a shot of Princess Kiko smoothing the hair of her new husband as they prepared to pose with Aya's parents Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko.

"It's not as if we're saying the picture was bad," said an agency official, who asked not to be named. "We have to consider television demands for equal treatment and that it's uncalled for to release a picture that was taken by mistake."

"To make an extreme analogy, it's only natural, for instance, that one wouldn't take a picture of (the prince) with his pants down," the official said.

Today, the newlyweds were feted at a luncheon for about 400 guests at the Imperial Palace in downtown Tokyo. Later, the emperor and empress hosted a reception for foreign dignitaries, including US Ambassador to Japan, Michael H. Armacost.

The wedding festivities will continue over four days with the total cost set at about \$1 million. Photographer Nakayama was "someone who had betrayed our trust," and was asked not to return today when several wedding festivities were scheduled, he said.

The agency has not yet decided if Nakayama, who represents Japan's major newspapers as the first commemorative photo of the royal family in more than 30 years with the subjects not standing fully face front, Nakayama said.

"If the photo had been taken at the wrong time" as the agency said, "why didn't the chamberlains standing at my side say something then?" Nakayama asked.



Royal newlyweds Prince Aya and Princess Kiko pose together for a photograph in Western formal dress after their wedding ceremony at the Imperial Palace on Friday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mandela no enemy of Israel: Sharansky

\$1.7 million raised for anti-apartheid cause

LOS ANGELES, June 30. (AP): Former Soviet dissident Natan Sharansky met Nelson Mandela yesterday and said he didn't consider the South African opposition leader an enemy of Israel, despite Mandela's praise for Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

"I feel we established a good relationship with him and I hope it is the beginning of a serious dialogue," Sharansky told reporters afterward. Sharansky met with Mandela privately at the Biltmore Hotel on the last leg of Mandela's anti-apartheid campaign across the United States.

The essential differences of opinion between the two men, Sharansky

said, was that Mandela did not think Arafat would want to destroy the state of Israel.

The visit was arranged earlier this month by the Anti-Defamation League because of Mandela's favourable comments about Arafat.

Sharansky, who spent more than eight years in a Soviet jail before being allowed to go to Israel, posed for pictures and joked with Mandela, who was freed in February after 27 years in prison for plotting sabotage to overthrow South Africa's minority white government.

Rebels attack around Monrovia

MONROVIA, June 30. (AP):

Several civilians who fled fighting on the outskirts of Monrovia said rebels appeared to be preparing to attack the Liberian capital.

Monrovia was plunged into darkness last night, hours after rebels clashed with government troops at four locations around the capital.

It was not clear if the blackout, which was more than 2 1/2 hours long, had been caused by rebels. While power cuts are frequent in the city, they normally last no longer than an hour.

Meanwhile, the West African nation's international airport terminal was heavily damaged by rebel shell and mortar fire, Western diplomats said.

It was not clear who held Robertsfield airport.

Rebels captured the country's main water purification plant yesterday, eliminating the capital's water supply.

Government sources said soldiers shut off water to the capital before the plant's capture to prevent rebels from poisoning it.

The rebels, who in six months have advanced from the northeastern tip of Liberia to the southwestern capital on the Atlantic Ocean, have said they will attack unless president Samuel Doe resigns.

Doe, 40, has resisted internal and external pressure to give up power in the civil war that claimed more than 1,000 civilians lives among 14 tribes, several of which are associated with the combatants.

The rebels have refused to attend a second round of peace talks, mediated by the Liberian Council of Churches.

Most businesses in Monrovia closed after troops fired at protesters who marched on Wednesday to demand Doe's resignation. At least five demonstrators were critically wounded.

Meanwhile, food and fuel shortages have worsened in Monrovia, which has been without water since Wednesday night. Rebel-held areas also were reported to be experiencing severe food shortages.

Defence Ministry sources said the water supply from White Plains, 12 miles (19 kms) from Monrovia, was turned off by technicians acting on the orders of seven soldiers guarding the facility. The technicians fled as did the soldiers after two days of intermittent fighting.

The Mount Coffe hydro-electric power station which supplies electricity to the capital was attacked on Thursday, said Frederick Cobehowe deputy managing director of the Liberian Electricity Corp.



Actor Danny Glover (left) and Nelson Mandela embrace after Glover introduced the anti-apartheid leader on Friday to a crowd of celebrities at a fund-raising dinner in Los Angeles. The event raised more than \$1 million for the apartheid movement. (Reuters wirephoto)



Nelson Mandela (left) meets with Russian dissident Natan Sharansky (yesterday) at the Biltmore Hotel, during Mandela's visit to Los Angeles. (Reuters wirephoto)

NLD captures 396 seats in Burmese Parliament

RANGOON, Burma, June 30.

(AP): The National League for Democracy, born of a nationwide, pro-democracy uprising two years ago, has won a massive general election victory, capturing 396 out of 485 parliamentary seats, according to final, official results today.

The election was held last May 27, but officials said poor communications, transport and weather delayed the official count.

The NLD now faces delicate negotiations with Burma's military leaders, who wield absolute power and have remained vague about when power would be turned over to the elected government.

The state radio said the NLD, which had contested 450 constituencies, won 396 seats. Its main opponent, the National Unity Party, captured 10 seats.

Before the election, some analysts had predicted the NUP, which has military support and large financial reserves, would make a strong showing.

The rest of the seats were shared among various, smaller pro-democracy groups and parties representing Burma's many ethnic minority groups.

More than 2,000 candidates from 93 political parties as well as 87 independent candidates contested the election in which more than 70 per cent of 21 million eligible voters cast ballots.

Hong Kong gets a baroness: Dame Lydia honoured on Queen Mum's birthday

HONG KONG, June 30. (AP): In the sunset years of British rule over this last outpost of a colonial empire, Hong Kong finally has a baroness to call its own.

The title goes to Dame Lydia Dunn, who in June was awarded a Life Peerage in the queen's birthday honours list. A key adviser to the colonial governor and a leading businesswoman, she becomes the first ethnic Chinese and second Hong Kong representative in the House of Lords.

As with everything that happens in Hong Kong these days, the honour is being evaluated in light of 1997, when Britain will hand over the territory of 5.7 million people to communist China.

Dame Lydia, 50, believes her seat in the Lords will provide the colony another avenue to press Hong Kong's case to the British.

"I do not look at this in terms of a personal honour," she said during a recent interview at her posh downtown

office. "I see this as a major gesture to Hong Kong by the British government... to give Hong Kong every chance to air its voice in a direct way."

In particular, she has been arguing that London has a moral duty to grant British residency rights to millions of Hong Kong people as an insurance policy of last resort in case of enclavement with the Chinese takeover.

Although the British government has proposed offering citizenship to only 225,000 people, Dame Lydia believes "that's not the end of the road. One hopes that the door is still open."

Others believe the life peerage will ultimately work against her effectiveness as a local leader. They note that Britain's influence here is waning and that the new masters in Beijing have shown little inclination to work with residents with strong ties to London.

"I don't think Lydia Dunn has any future as far as China

is concerned," said Norman Miners, an instructor of political science at the University of Hong Kong. "She has no future after 1997."

There is no doubt, however, that in awarding Dame Lydia a life peerage the British are honouring one of the most remarkable success stories in this prosperous territory that brims with success stories.

Born in Hong Kong during World War II to a Shanghai merchant who fled China, she was educated at the University of California, Berkeley, before entering the colony's world of business. Her surname is an Anglicisation of Deng, as in senior Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping. The two are not related.

Dame Lydia quickly climbed the corporate ladder and today is an executive director of Swire Pacific Ltd., one of the colony's venerable trading hong, as well as a director

of Hong Kong's premier bank and airline.

She also is chairman of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and has travelled the world drumming up business for the territory.

Her political career took off in 1976 when she was appointed by the governor to the legislative council, a rubber-stamp legislature that primarily serves as a forum for public debate. She now is senior appointed member of the executive council, a cabinet-like body that advises the governor.

"She works greatly behind the scenes," admired senior legislative council member Allen Lee, a longtime political colleague.

While Dame Lydia is not among the local politicians who loudly accuse Britain of selling out of Hong Kong and China of bullying the territory, she rejects the argument she is not outspoken.

Uganda pilot flies back 4 days late

KAMPALA, June 30. (Reuters): A pilot who abandoned Uganda Airlines' only airworthy plane in the western town of Kasese four days later and flew it back to base, an airline spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman said security men were questioning Captain Ibrahim Kisoro about why he left the twin-engine Fokker Friendship in Kasese on Monday, as it was waiting with 30 passengers to fly 300 km (180 miles) back to Entebbe airport near Kampala.

Kisoro finally flew the plane back to Entebbe on Thursday.

سحر العبد



KGB's ex-chief stripped of rank

MOSCOW, June 30. (AP): A former KGB counterintelligence chief who complained that the spy agency had too much power has been stripped of his military rank and decorations by President Mikhail Gorbachev, Tass said today.

Oleg Kalugin, who held the rank of major-general and was a top spy in the United States during the 1960s, said two weeks ago that he was hounded out of the KGB because of his reformist political views.

He gave interviews to foreign and Soviet journalists and appeared on Soviet television saying that the KGB had too much power and should be disbanded. "By decision of the President of the USSR, at the request of the KGB, Oleg Kalugin was deprived of all state decorations for actions compromising the honour and dignity of the state security organs," the state news agency said.

"By decision of the council of ministers of the USSR he was deprived of his military rank of major-general (reserve) for the same actions," it said, adding that he also was stripped of all departmental decorations.

Kalugin, a member of the Democratic Platform Reform Movement said in the interviews that KGB agents are still tapping telephones, infiltrating the Russian Orthodox church and labour unions, and carrying out dirty tricks at the behest of their superiors. He had said the agency should be abolished.

The KGB responded by distributing a news release saying: "Kalugin's personality is well known to us. His pronouncements, with gross distortions and hostile remarks about the activity of the present state security agencies logically follow from his acts and conduct during his work with the KGB agencies."

Kalugin, 55, said he was drummed out of the intelligence agency this year after being demoted to reserve status because of his reformist leanings. "The KGB has too much political power, and this way will remain a threat to democracy because it may be manipulated," he told reporters. "I would abolish the KGB as such."

'Les misérables' of Paris

Plight of evicted squatters

PARIS, June 30. (AP): Not far from Satan's alley and a dead-end street called God, 48 families live in a public square, victims of a war on squatters waged by a city of plenty with little room for its poor.

Since March 15, when a winter moratorium on evictions ended, riot police have cleared dozens of homes in pre-dawn raids. The evictions brought a spate of denunciations, demonstrations and charges that the city of Paris, where housing prices are soaring, is trying to push the poor out of town.

"We're miserable here because we have nothing," said Assa Kan, a 30-year-old mother of six from Mali, among 150 people living under tents at the Place de la Reunion since May 2. "At night, it's really cold," she said, caressing the charred cheeks of her 4-month-old daughter. "All the children are sick."

The square holds the largest of three camps set up recently by evicted squatters or reaters turned out of condemned buildings. Nine families camp at the foot of Sacre Coeur, the Montmartre Basilica, and six live outside a local city office.

City officials, announcing their spring offensive, said squatting had reached "inadmissible" proportions.

"The city is duty-bound to solve this problem," said Jean Tiberi, deputy to Paris mayor Jacques Chirac. Evictions are "the only way to stop the multiplication of squatters."

Within days, 300 people — nearly half of them children — were homeless.

"These people had a right to squat," said Abbe Pierre, a bearded Roman Catholic cleric who is France's premier champion of the needy. "When a man is hungry, he has the right to take bread from the baker."

Abbe Pierre's humanitarian organisation, the Emmaus Community, provided tents for the evicted.

At the Place de la Reunion, ringed with rosebushes and dotted with orange and blue tents, a siege mentality prevails. Amenities are limited to one spigot of running water, three

outdoor commodes and intermittent lighting at night via an electric wire from a nearby cafe. One tent serves as a makeshift kitchen.

Mrs Kan and others said they would remain until the city provided a suitable alternative.

"We are confronted with the unacceptable," Bertrand Main, deputy chief of the league of human rights, at a news conference. "Demands for rehousing are met with a wall of silence, incomprehension and, sometimes contempt."

Paris proposed temporary housing for the evicted in buildings scheduled for demolition in St Denis, a poor northern suburb. Officials there objected.

"We don't have a money problem in Paris. We have a problem of land," said Tiberi, explaining the housing shortage on French radio.

"For moral reasons... we cannot accept the principle of rehousing squatters," Tiberi added, saying squatters were robbing legal occupants of apartment space.

"It is a crime to refuse lodging in a city like Paris where several thousand apartments are vacant," said Abbe Pierre at a news conference.

The committee against poor housing, a protest group that periodically locates vacant buildings for squatters, claims there are 3,000-4,000 vacant, government-subsidised units around Paris — a claim the city denies.

Officials say the number of buildings occupied by squatters, mainly African, has quintupled in three years, from 36 to 187. They admit that 41 of the 187 buildings are empty moderate rent housing complexes. About 50,000 people are on the priority waiting list for these buildings, officials say.

The housing debate comes amid skyrocketing real estate prices and charges that speculation is transforming Paris into a ghetto for the elite.

President Francois Mitterrand recently denounced those "who enrich themselves while sleeping" because they own "a good piece of land or a nice apartment."

France adopts bill

Anti-racist legislation

PARIS, June 30. (UPI): The French National Assembly today approved an anti-racism bill that makes it impossible for anyone convicted of racial discrimination from running for any public office for a five-year period.

The law, introduced by the French Communist Party following a rash of anti-Semitic and racist acts this spring, was opposed by conservatives and the sole deputy from the extreme rightwing National Front Party.

In May a series of attacks on Jewish and Catholic cemeteries, including the desecration of 34 graves at the Jewish cemetery in Carpentras in southern France, led to a national period of soul searching.

Yet despite the outrage caused by the anti-Semitic violence and the mass demonstrations organised to protest the acts, the National Front has continued to grow, according to political analysts.

Opponents of the anti-racism bill argued that existing laws were sufficient to punish racist and

xenophobic acts and charged that the new law will limit freedom of the press.

Attorney General Pierre Arpaillange pointed out that the exclusion from running for office for those convicted of racist acts does not apply to journalists or directors of newspapers.

The law, approved 308 to 265, also mandates the French human rights commission to make a public annual report on the fight against racism. It also guarantees anti-racist groups the right to reply to anti-Semitic, xenophobic, or racist attacks.

French political analysts said the law was aimed specifically at the National Front headed by Jean-Marie Le Pen. Although the party has only one member in the National Assembly, it has been successful in electing many of its members to local and regional offices.

Le Pen himself was convicted Thursday of racial defamation for anti-Semitic comments he made in a magazine interview last August.



A dejected Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis raises his ballot to vote in the Lithuanian Parliament on Friday for a 100-day suspension of Lithuania's unilateral declaration of independence in order to open talks with Moscow on the future of the republic. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lithuania bows down

Soviets to resume Vilnius oil supply

MOSCOW, June 30. (Reuters): The Soviet government today told rebel Lithuania it would resume oil supplies to the republic almost immediately, a day after Lithuanian Parliament bowed to Moscow and froze its independence declaration.

Parliamentary spokeswoman Rita Dapkus said the office of Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene had received a phone call from Moscow this morning saying the oil supply would resume at 1100 GMT the same day.

"So far we have not received any oil," she said.

Dapkus said the republic's sole oil refinery at Mazeikiai had received a telegram at 1100 GMT warning it to prepare for the imminent resumption of oil supplies.

Vilnius radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said the Moscow phone call to Prunskiene's office had come from Soviet First Deputy Oil Minister Lev Churilov.

The Lithuanian Parliament surrendered yesterday to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's con-

dition for talks — the freezing of its independence declaration.

Moscow's wide-ranging economic sanctions have badly hit the republic's industry and agriculture, closing hundreds of factories and throwing more than 40,000 people out of work.

The Lithuanian Supreme Council, or Parliament, yesterday declared a 100-day moratorium from the start of any talks but said this could be broken off at any time.

The concession handed Gorbachev a big victory before Monday's opening of a crucial congress of the Soviet Communist Party, where conservative critics are expected to blast his reformist policies.

Gorbachev, who is also party leader, had consistently called on Lithuania to suspend its declaration to give him room for manoeuvre with his critics.

But it became increasingly clear this week that both sides were eager for an end to the deadlock, with Lithuanian leaders shuttling to Moscow and Gorbachev suddenly using the once-banned word "negotiations" to describe future talks.

Moscow leaders told to avoid rift

MOSCOW, June 30. (AP): President Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday warned top Communist Party leaders that they must avoid a split at next week's party congress, where dissatisfaction among both conservatives and radicals is expected to surface.

The central committee, the 19-million-member party's policy-making body, tentatively approved a report that Gorbachev will deliver Monday at the 28th congress of the Soviet Communist Party.

But the 24-member committee ordered the politburo to "rework" it taking into account discussion during a lengthy close-door Kremlin meeting, said Alexander Kapto, head of the central committee ideological department.

Gorbachev's allies appeared to be on the offensive for the congress. The national news agency Tass warned that dumping Gorbachev as party general-secretary could spell "disaster" and a politburo member said conservative hard-liners were pursuing a "suicidal" course.

The hard-liners potential power at the congress became a strong concern last week after the Russian Republic's Communist Party elected a conservative as its head. Delegates from Russia will make up the majority of the congress 4,683 participants.

Gorbachev also is trying to head off a split threatened by the radical Democratic Platform group whose members want faster reforms within the party.

Speaking to reporters after a central committee session, Kapto quoted Gorbachev as saying that the crucial issue is "to ensure the consolidation of party members."

In addition to reforms, next week's congress will debate whether one person can serve as both president of the Soviet Union and general secretary of the Communist Party — the jobs held by Gorbachev. Conservatives want Gorbachev to give up his party job.

The most prominent politburo hard-liner, Yegor K. Ligachev, told the Rabochaya Tribuna newspaper that he had "absolute confidence" in Gorbachev's authority and that the congress would focus on the fate of the country and party rather than individuals.

In the weeks leading to the congress, the party has been in increasing disarray. Kapto said 130,000 members had recently quit the party but declined to specify over what period.

The 4,683 delegates to the congress will vote on party leadership posts, including the general secretary and central committee. They might also vote on changing the name of the senior post to chairman and create two vice chairmanships, Kapto said.

The committee did not discuss the question of postponing the congress, as maverick Russian President Boris Yeltsin proposed this week to slow the conservative thrust.

"The issue of postponement was not discussed at the plenum," said Kapto. Yeltsin later told state television that "all of our arguments are ahead of us."



Alexander Kapto, head of the ideology department of the Soviet Communist Party. (Reuters wirephoto)

East Germans rush to dump old money

Deutschemerk introduction ends GDR history

EAST BERLIN, June 30. (Agencies): East Germans emptied their pockets of East marks today as the clock ticked towards a midnight merger with West Germany's free markets after 40 years of economic manipulation by Communist Party bureaucrats.

What happens tomorrow is officially termed German economic and currency union. But it will be more akin to the takeover of a backward family business by a dynamic conglomerate, spelling the extinction of East German sovereignty.

Introduction of the West mark is the first irrevocable step toward East Germans besieged stores early today to dump their last East marks on what will also be the last day of cheap subsidised prices. Armoured trucks with police escorts sped around the stock banks with new bills and coins from the West.

On Sunday, the West mark becomes the sole German money — the Deutschemerk — providing 16 million East Germans with hard-currency incomes, pensions and savings taken for granted for decades by their 61 million affluent West German brethren.

But communist-created subsidies on most consumer goods will also vanish, unleashing a price spiral to Western levels.

"With the introduction of the West German mark, the history of the GDR comes to an end. What awaits us is a capitalist society," said Neues Deutschland, daily of the humbled Communist Party.

Other newspapers printed pictures of new notes and warned people to beware of forgeries.

The new era dawns at the stroke of midnight. At that point, today revellers must settle their East mark bills and pay for the rest of their food and drink in Deutschemarks.

East German taxis will pull over when the clock strikes 12, ask customers to pay the charge on the meter in East marks, then carry on to the final destination where they will extract the remainder in Deutschemarks.

Although the economic fusion of the two Germanys was first proposed by Bonn Chancellor Helmut Kohl in February, it was made concrete by pressure from the East German people, who left in droves for West Germany's higher living standards.

West Germany is giving East Germans much of what they have craved for, but many fear that job security, guaranteed under communism, is a thing of the past.

Industry experts believe up to three million East Germans may lose jobs as uncompetitive firms close, shunting a third of the work force into dole queues.

Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere, head of East Germany's first freely elected government — likely to be the last separate one of any kind — told citizens to take heart and exploit the opportunities created by the historic merger.

"Let's start this bravely. We shouldn't just concentrate on the problems but see the opportunities," he said in a speech prepared for television broadcast today.

Controls along the inter-German border, the world's most airtight until East Germany's Stalinist autocracy fell to a popular uprising in November, will also evaporate tomorrow.

The Berlin Wall that cooped up East Germans in a garrison state for decades is being demolished and most severed cross-city streets have already been re-tore.

Bonn's opposition leader and a union chief sought to dampen German euphoria over pending economic union today, warning of hardship and despair for workers in the East on the way to full unification of the fatherland.

And East German Finance Minister Walter Romberg said rising unemployment after the merger of the economies, with the need for increased social security payments, might raise the costs of unification for both sides.

West German Social Democratic Party (SPD) chairman Hans-Jochen Vogel said the switch "from a command-economy to a socially and ecologically responsible market economy is not possible without risks."

(See Page 13)

Walesa holds meeting to set up new forum

WARSAW, June 30. (AP): Lech Walesa, in political conflict with backers of the Solidarity prime minister, convened a meeting of Solidarity activists today in a bid to create a new national movement.

Walesa told the meeting of local citizens committees representatives from around the country that Poland has reached a "turning point" and its revolution may need repairs to keep from going bad.

Meanwhile, it appeared that Polish-born Pope John Paul II may be lending his immense moral authority among Poles to the prime minister's camp, by calling for national unity and support for him in Walesa's public.

The Walesa gathering was held in a steamy hall at the parliament where the Polish Senate normally meets.

Although many senior Solidarity activists who recently have broken with Walesa were not present, the chamber was overflowing.

The meeting began with Walesa associate Zdzislaw Najder making public a June 18 letter from John Paul II to Walesa in which the Pope praised Walesa as a "guide and point of reference" but appealed for unity in Poland.

"Let everyone to whom Poland is precious work together and unite themselves in Solidarity around a programme of repairing the republic," said the letter written to thank Walesa for his May birthday greetings to the Pontiff.

Another papal letter, this one to Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki and released yesterday by state media, said the prime minister had become a "personification" of efforts to build a new social community in Poland based on truth, justice and

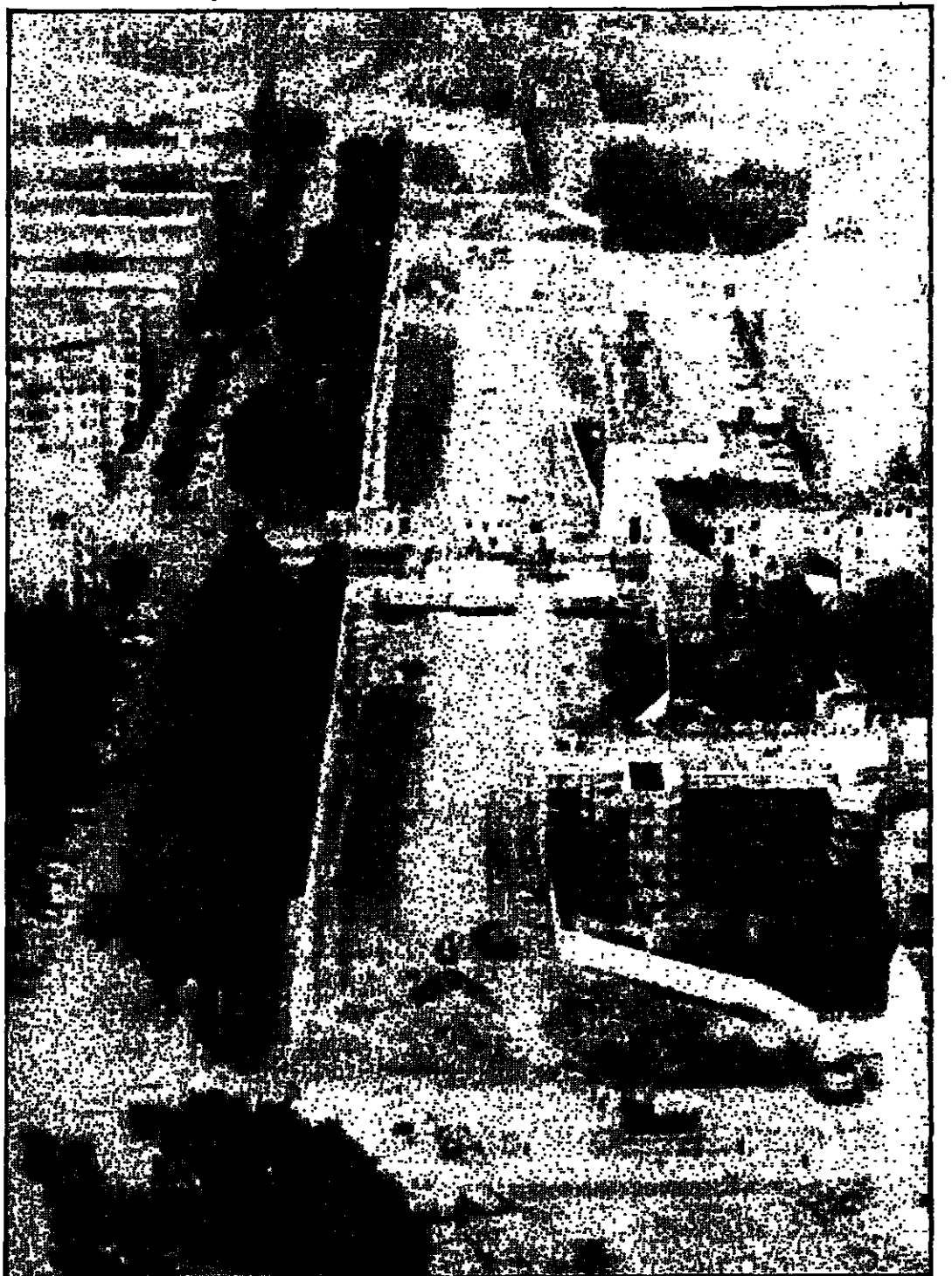
mutual love. This effort "should rally around itself all Poles," the Pope said.

Vatican officials, responding to press reports in Italy that the Pope has endorsed Mazowiecki, denied any favouritism in the letters.

Walesa and Najder called the meeting two weeks ago in what appeared to be a move to preempt a similar meeting of citizen committee representatives scheduled Sunday by supporters of Mazowiecki.

Police used a sledgehammer to break into the Agriculture Ministry yesterday and ended a 3-day-old sit-in by some 600 farmers demanding guaranteed product prices.

Scores of truncheon-carrying police entered the central Warsaw building when the locked door was broken open shortly before 7:30 pm.



Seen from British army helicopter on Friday, Berlin's wound is healing as severed roads are reconnected by West and East German workers. The street in the picture, Bernauer Strasse, was the scene of daring escapes when the wall went up in 1961. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Religious freedom in East: Pope John Paul said on Friday that sweeping changes in Eastern Europe had brought unprecedented religious freedom, but had also created tension between the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches.

The Pope told an Orthodox church delegation visiting the Vatican that the new freedom in Eastern Europe had provided greater opportunities for co-operation and dialogue between the two churches, which split in the 11th century.

"But we must also recognise that in certain regions new tensions have been created between our respective communities," he added. (Reuters)

Image of Romania: Romanian Prime Minister Petre Roman said on Saturday miners would never again be used to repress street protests, action which triggered widespread condemnation in the West this month.

But he told Reuters in an interview that the brutal intervention in which six people were killed would not tarnish Romania's image in the West for long.

"People will soon realise that the rebirth of Romania outside a democratic and European context is inconceivable."

The June 13-15 rampage by miners against anti-communist demonstrators prompted the European Economic Community (EEC) and the United States to delay delivery of non-humanitarian aid to Romania, though no long-term sanctions have yet been announced. (Reuters)

MiG-21 crashes: A Hungarian Air Force MiG-21 jet fighter crashed during a routine training flight Friday but the pilot ejected and parachuted to safety, the state news agency MTI reported.

There were no injuries from the crash near the southern town of Komlo, some 170 kilometres (120 miles) from Budapest, MTI reported.

The pilot had noticed an unspecified malfunction during the flight and bailed out at an altitude of 3,400 metres (10,000 feet). (AP)

Students demonstrate: Romanian students staged a protest at Bucharest university on Saturday to press for the release of their arrested leader Marian Munteanu.

The two-hour gathering outside the philology faculty was organised by the Students' League, of which Munteanu, detained on June 18 and accused of inciting riots, is President.

The Interior Ministry, under fire from students and academics for its silence on Munteanu, issued a statement before the rally saying he was in good health at Jilava prison near Bucharest. (Reuters)

Instant lottery: French lottery experts announced plans on Friday to launch the Soviet Union's first "instant lottery," hoping the lure of big prizes will sell hundreds of millions of tickets for the benefit of a charity group.

The lottery is scheduled to begin by the end of July, with an initial distribution of 200 million tickets, said Georges-Robert Parisot, president of the international section of the company which runs the French national lottery.

He said the tickets are to be sold in the Soviet Union by the Soviet Children's Fund, established several years ago to look after the interests of children. It is officially independent, but has close ties to the government. (AP)

Farmers threaten: Bulgarian farmers on Friday threatened to block roads into the capital with their tractors if students do not end their nationwide university protests soon, the state BTA news agency reported.

Students from Sofia and many other universities have been staging sit-in strikes for two weeks to protest alleged election violations and demand the removal of the head of state television.

In Sofia, some 70,000 signatures have been collected to back the students' demands. At least 40 people, including teachers, parents and other supporters of the students have gone on hunger strike outside the national parliament in Sofia. (AP)

Austria cannot accommodate giant Kuwaiti projects

Link between East and West

VIENNA, June 30, (Kuna): Austria's available investment opportunities could not accommodate giant Kuwaiti investment projects, an Austrian commercial expert said here recently, noting that there were no barriers and obstacles before Kuwaiti business.

The remarks were voiced by chief of the Austrian commercial mission to Kuwait Franz Knappitsch in an interview with Kuna on the sidelines of a seminar on "the future of commercial relations between

Austria and the Arab world."

There were no barriers blocking Kuwaiti investments in Austria, but "giant projects qualified for such investments are rarely found in the Austrian market," he explained.

The Kuwaiti and Austrian authorities were currently preparing a special study to determine sectors where Kuwaiti investments could be employed, Knappitsch said, hoping the negotiations which would resume next summer would result in a co-

operation agreement for investment encouragement and protection as well as avoiding tax duplication.

Link

The Kuwaiti investments could be expanded in Eastern European countries in the real estate, banking, and trading through Austria, the official said, citing Austria's geographic location and neutral policy which served as a linking bridge

between East Europe and several part of the world.

On the Austria-Kuwaiti relations, Knappitsch said "it can't be better" describing it as "good and ideal."

He said both sides were constantly seeking new spheres to enhance such relations. Knappitsch expressed satisfaction over the increase of Kuwaiti tourists in his country, whom he said spend two to three weeks here. "A relatively long period in the tourism field," he remarked.

Iran quake

Kuwait to provide all help to victims

THE recent earthquake that without warning caught the citizens of Iran by total surprise has been the focus of world-wide attention.

In this respect, the State of Kuwait has not been in any way less involved in its "human feelings" or determination to contribute to reconstruction or rehabilitation efforts.

The disaster left about 55,000 casualties in addition to about 200,000 injured according to official statistics cited by Iran. Kuwait's Minister of Public Health, Dr. Abdulwahhab Al Fouzan said.

Mobilisation of various forms of "medical teams" from a cross-section of specialties from various countries including Kuwait have descended in large measure to extend all and every assistance possible.

Supplies

In relation to Kuwait, the Kuwaiti Medical Mission constitutes 14 physicians and nurses who have been provided with all medical supplies. The Ministry of Public Health, in consideration of the "need of the hour" has agreed to co-operate and provide all essential assistance that Iran might request this time of "crisis."

Kuwait's blood-bank has mobilised all activities to provide "the maximum infusion of this vital commodity" and will spare not efforts to assist the Iranian people of this primary "life-giving" substance.

Fouzan said that he will accord special attention to the Organs Transplantation Centre and expressed his appreciation to the efforts exerted by the chairman of the Kuwait's Organs Transplantation Centre, Dr. George Abouna and his colleagues.

Meanwhile, a local daily yesterday opined that the quake which recently hit Iran might have been a blessing in disguise, as Iraq sent a clear message of forgive and forget to Iran by announcing its readiness to help Tehran any way it can.

"The catastrophe that hit Iran has signalled the co-operative spirit of the Arab world and is simply evidenced in the gesture of Iraq to be the first to rush aid to Iran," daily 'Al-Sayassah' said in its front-page editorial.

The paper said that other Arab countries including Kuwait, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Oman were soon to follow suit.

The daily affirmed that the Gulf's well being must come from within without the need for outside help.

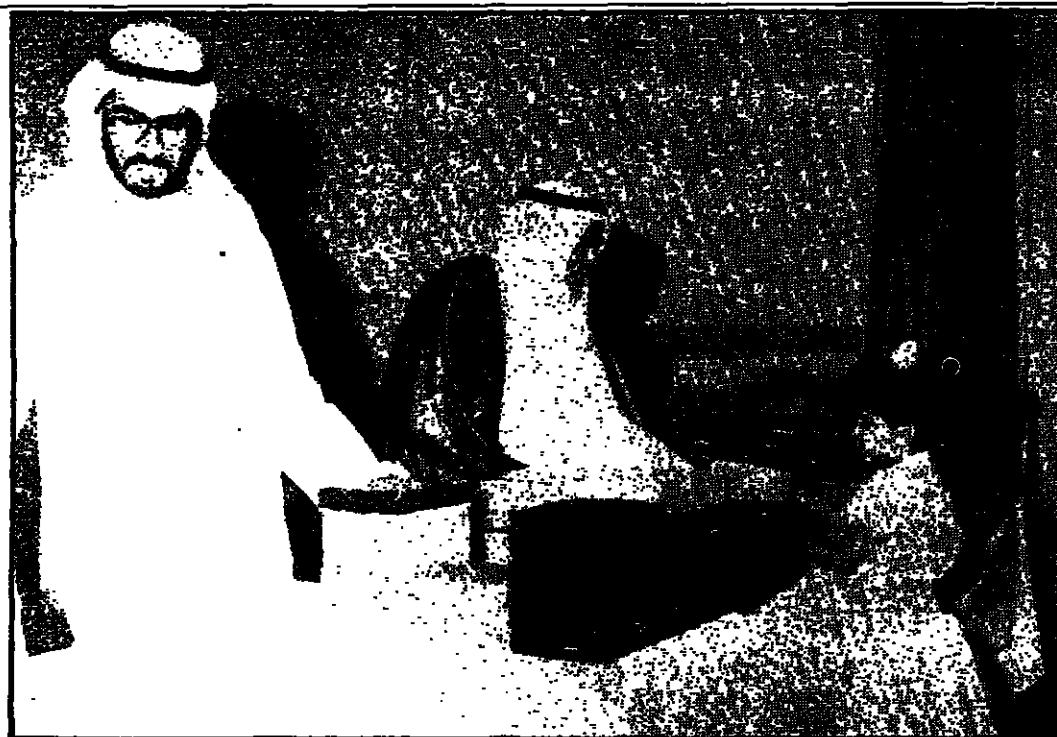
It indicated that the big powers, which throughout history had fuelled wars among Arabs and Muslims, have succeeded temporarily in breaking up a possible alliance between Iraq and Iran, who fought a fierce war for eight long years.

The paper concluded that tens of thousands of Iranian victims are a dear price to pay toward mending fences between the two Muslim countries, but "our only consolation is the final good result."

Pak results

The Embassy of Pakistan has received result intimation cards and admission forms of the following private candidates from the Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Islamabad: Roll numbers from 110009 to 110015 and from 133583 to 133593.

The candidates are advised to collect their result intimation cards and admission forms from the Education Section, Embassy of Pakistan immediately.



Outstanding students honoured

A honouring party for outstanding students at Abdullah Al Salem area was held under the sponsorship of Abdul Rahman Al Khodari undersecretary of the Ministry of Education. The party was attended by the director of the Capital Educational Area, a number of headmasters and parents. Students received prizes from the undersecretary at the end of the party.



Screwworm fly

Menace warrants quick intervention, says Jazairy

VIENNA, June 30, (Opeena): Dr. Idress Jazairy, president of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (Ifad), warned here yesterday that the presence of the new screwworm fly in Libya "is a grave threat, warranting expeditious intervention."

Jazairy, who was here for a one-day visit to sign a joint co-operation accord with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (Unido), was addressing a press conference hosted by the United Nations Correspondents Association in Vienna (Uncaav).

He stressed: "If we do not attempt to eradicate the fly now, the danger of it spreading to other countries of North Africa, across the continent and even into southern Europe, cannot be ruled out."

"The cost of subsequent attempts to combat the pest will be prohibitive," Jazairy maintained, adding that "serious environmental implications emerge as the entire wildlife in Africa will be in jeopardy, in addition to large losses envisaged in the livestock industry."

Given the serious nature of the screwworm infestation in North Africa and the importance of the forthcoming Ifad donor's conference scheduled to be held on July 17 in Rome, he said the "positive and wholehearted response of the donor community to our appeal for funding is crucial, since immediate full-scale action is now essential."

Challenge

He pointed out that the number of positive cases of screwworm infestation reported since June/July 1989 has been increasing at an "alarming rate" of 300 per cent, representing a 15-fold rise in cases reported each month.

He added that "this does not include several unrecorded cases of screwworm attack on infants."

If the pest was allowed to spread throughout North Africa, Jazairy cautioned, that region alone would risk having an estimated 70 million head of livestock infected.

"This entails that the cost of merely controlling the pest at the level of infestation, far from achieving eradication, will be \$350 million annually," he warned.

The Ifad head said the fund had accepted the screwworm challenge because of its highly successful experience in financing numerous biological control programmes.

Role

Speaking on the pilot eradication programme to be launched in Libya, he said the start of the scheme, which would use the sterile-insect technique employed successfully in Mexico and the United States, had been advanced to July 1 instead of August this year.

"Ifad is confident that the pledging conference will be successful... it will be launched jointly by Ifad and the FAO in order to launch the eradication programme on a basis that will be sound financially as well as technically," Jazairy affirmed.

He explained that the conference aimed at obtaining firm commitment from other international financial institutions and donor countries towards the first year's financial requirements for the eradication programme costing about \$35 million.

It would also attempt to enlist financial pledges to continue funding for the programme in the second year, estimated at about \$50 million.

This scheme is already exemplifying a model co-operative effort within the United States system. Among the various concerned sister specialised agencies are the Food and Agriculture

Kuwait for all citizens: Awadi

KUWAIT, June 30, (Kuna): Newly-appointed State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Abdul Rahman Al Awadi has affirmed that Kuwait is not one certain class, tribe or family, but for all citizens.

In a brief interview before going on a private leave, Awadi said that the state is well aware of some issues and laws that need re-examining to realise the best interest of the country and citizens.

He added that HH the Amir has asserted, during his meeting with the new cabinet, that he supports any action that develops capabilities of Kuwaitis, fortifies national unity and strengthens the internal front.

Awadi noted that HH the Crown Prince and Premier had also set up a list of priorities for the council of ministers in the coming period, topped by guaranteeing security state-wide, providing a prosper life and the best services for citizens and also jobs for all Kuwaitis.

Dr Awadi hoped that the cabinet and the 75-seat national council would do their best toward speeding up the process of revival of the economy, disengagement between the various state institutions and resolving the debt crisis.

He also said that the state is keen toward upgrading its educational, health and housing services, in addition to providing job opportunities for new Kuwaiti graduates.

The state minister for cabinet affairs affirmed that the country's foreign policy will see no changes as far as backing the Palestinian people in restoring their legitimate rights and establishing its own independent state under the leadership of the PLO.

He stressed that Kuwait still champions a comprehensive and just peace in the Arabian Gulf and the restoration of peace and stability in Lebanon.

Sales dull this Eid: merchants

Insecurity keeps shoppers away

By Lima Al Khalafawi
Arab Times staff

THESE days at commercial areas and other shopping centres just prior to "Eid Al Adha" which falls tomorrow, activities in relation to turnover in business is an accepted factor. This is the unanimous opinion of a broad-spectrum of merchants who constitute the majority of financial business indicators.

This year, Eid is being celebrated during the peak of summer which coincides with the "end-of-term" scholastic holidays for students. This exodus of a large number of parents and students, results in a quantum diminishing of customers who in years past have contributed significantly to business turnover.

Elucidating, Ahmed Ismael a veteran entrepreneur in the Salmiya area said: "Eid is an occasion, eagerly looked forward to, by all businessmen. This is particularly true, as it is the biggest occasion in the Muslim world. Eight years ago, most auspicious sales during Eid, were different," Ismael commented in the sense that they were lucrative. Presently, merchants need financial cash flow and tend to sell at break-even point, due to the

above-mentioned constraints. Echoing the comments of Ismael, Saleh Yehya, another shop owner said that commercial activity is very weak in general, irrespective of the season. This, he attributed to financial and job insecurity.

"During this occasion," he said, "only 20 to 25 customers show-up over and above an ordinary day. This does not mean we are making a lot of money."

Yehya added that Salmiya or Mubarkiya are dull in comparison to what used to be ten years ago. "These places buzzed with activity," Yehya commented.

A housewife, Lulwa Hussein purchasing Eid clothes for her children commented that in spite of the low prices, people turnout is very weak.

"It is not a matter of money, but most of the time it is the insecure feeling about the future and how to save money to afford a decent living for your children. For example, many expat families are not interested in shopping for Eid because of the increasing worries about their relatives in Lebanon or Palestine, while others are concerned about their future status in relation to stability, status, financial

standings and these parameters contribute significantly towards their hesitation in spending funds, even during Eid, she said.

Azzi Ameer, a computer programmer, said that Eid celebrations are changing year after year — unfortunately on a downward scale. "Eid for many people now, is translated into spending a few days or weeks outside the country, instead of shopping or visiting friends."

Ameer added that shopping activity for Eid was expected to be lower in comparison to previous years. Few people are going to the gold market or Salmiya area. "Even a commodity, like gold which used to be at the top of the priority list of shoppers during this festive occasion has not found favour with shoppers — even though gold is today at a rock-bottom prices of \$351.05 an ounce."

Another shop owner at Mubarkiya area, Suliman Taki, said that this lack of activity is bemoaned by merchants in Kuwait. Commercial activity cannot be restored as long as prices are high, he said and added that a turnaround can only be achieved by merchants reducing their prices, based on an increase in volume of turnover.



Information Centre course

The Ministry of Interior undersecretary Yousef Bader Al Khorafi patronised a ceremony at which graduation certificates were handed out to the participants in the course on the development of skills of social treatment of others and the course on the development of skills of presentation and demonstration held at the Information Centre during the period from June 16 to 27.

The courses were taken by 32 officers and two employees from the ministry. Maj.-Gen. Khorafi delivered a speech in which he expressed the ministry's keenness on sponsoring such courses to keep staff abreast of all new developments and improve the performance of staff.

Agricultural development

ACTING director of the Agricultural Products Company, Khaled Abdullah Al Othman stated that the country is witnessing agricultural development represented in the large increase in products. He indicated that the country is now considered to be self-sufficient in vegetables and fruits.

He stressed that such a growth in production size should be accompanied with highly advanced marketing plans by opening new marketing channels. He stated Kuwait market is open for all sectors and lacks rationalisation for importation of specific products particularly during products season.

Othman indicated that vegetables stalls opened at governorates have achieved positive results before expanding local products. He added that they demand further stall expansion which provide farmers and consumers with services. He hoped that more vegetable stalls will be opened at each residential area. He also called for the establishment of special stalls at Shuwaikh vegetables and fruits market for local products only.

Quake committee appeal: The Kuwaiti joint committee for rescue appealed here yesterday to citizens and residents of Kuwait and Muslims around the world to donate money for the victims of the earthquakes in Iran.

A statement issued by the committee said the Muslim people of Iran are exposed to an unparalleled situation of tremendous destruction both in souls and properties, which entails from all Muslims to quickly offer all they can to assist the victims.

The statement said the committee has opened a new account number (1600/8) at the Kuwait Finance House under the name "Rescuing the victims in Iran," for receiving any donations toward that end. (Kuna)

Communications committee: Communications Minister Habib Jawhar Hayat presided over a meeting of the ministry's higher committee in the presence of Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Al Ayoub and assistant undersecretaries.

During the meeting, the minister gave his directions for the ministry's general plan and urged top officials to provide better services to the citizens in the light of the directions of HH the Amir and HH Crown Prince and Prime Minister. (Kuna)

Visit visa overstay fine: The fine imposed on people violating temporary visit conditions which is defined at three months will be revised according to a local daily.

The daily learnt that the pertinent fine in this case will be reduced from KD 10 to KD two, hinting that for the visit visa which is valid for one month only the fine of KD 10 will remain unchanged.

It added that the Immigration Department of Interior Ministry had empowered the directors of the immigration department at the governorates to grant temporary residence to some people valid for three months and in accordance with some specific criterion.

Rent increase case dismissed: The Court of Higher Appeal upheld a ruling by the Court of Misdemeanours rejecting a Ministry of Finance order to increase the amount of rent for an industrial plot in Mina Abdulla. The court was told that the Kuwait National Industries Company had leased a plot in Mina Abdulla area in August 1975 with the purpose of establishing industrial projects. The value of the annual rent was KD 15,000 and the duration for 25 years, liable to renewal. Two years later, the area was joined to come under the supervision of the Shuwaikh Industrial Area. In February 1988, a decision was issued by the Minister of Commerce and Industry raising the rent value by a big proportion. The total amount of money resulting from the differences in rent value became in two years time about KD 3 million. But the management of the National Industries Company refused to pay the increase and challenged the case declaring that the increase was illegal and violated the contract clauses.

Loss of Saudi deal bad news for British Aerospace

LONDON, June 30, (AP): Plans by Saudi Arabia to buy an additional 48 Tornado strike-fighter aircraft worth more than one billion pounds (\$1.74 billion) from Britain are in doubt, the Financial Times has reported.

The British Defence Ministry refused comment on the report.

Shares in British Aerospace, the main contractor for the plane, fell 7 pence (12 cents) to 535 pence (396 cents) on the

London Stock Exchange later Friday.

The reported loss of part of the Saudi deal was the latest bad news for British Aerospace, whose shares have been depressed by the generally poor outlook for defence contractors.

Last week the British government, citing inflation, cancelled an order for 33 Tornados as part of a £600 million (\$1 million) cut in this year's £21.2 billion (\$36.88) defence budget.

The Financial Times, quoting unidentified negotiators, said the deal for 48 Tornados was in jeopardy. It is the largest single equipment item in a 1988 British-Saudi arms deals worth £10 billion (\$17.4 billion).

The newspaper said Saudi Arabia is going ahead with the rest of the 1988 deal and with the purchase of 72 other Tornados which were part of a £5.5 billion

(\$9.57 billion) arms deal in 1986.

"The threatened loss of the further Saudi order (for the 48 Tornados) comes after successive cancellations of Tornado purchases by Jordan, Oman and Malaysia because of financial constraints," the newspaper said.

"Oman and Malaysia said they would seek British Aerospace Hawk aircraft instead."

The newspaper said that if the 48-

plane order falls through, British arms negotiators fear Tornado production will end in 1992, several years ahead of schedule.

The Tornado is a joint venture by Britain, West Germany and Italy. British Aerospace makes about 18 per cent of the Tornado aircraft in value terms and is responsible for final assembly for British and Saudi-ordered aircraft.

Private psychiatric clinics plan criticised

Privacy of patients to be protected

THE chairman of the Kuwait Medical Society Dr Abdullah Abdul Aziz Al Rashed has severely criticised a recent decision which approves the establishment of private psychiatric clinics and recommended instead the establishment of units for psychiatric medicine in hospitals in different areas.

Speaking to a local daily, he said that the

main reason the issuance of licences for private psychiatrists was rejected is the objective of protecting people's private secrets. This is of paramount importance, particularly since Kuwait is not part of the Western world, but part of a society with grave social problems.

Rashed said that Kuwait has a fully equipped and staffed hospital for psy-

chiatric diseases. Introducing private clinics will negatively affect the privacy of the patient's family as Kuwait is a small cohesive community.

He said that the establishment of private psychiatric clinics will require answers to many different queries such as, will the private psychiatrist be allowed to prepare legal medical reports? Will the privacy of

the patient be guaranteed so that no individual can use his therapy as evidence in court? and will the psychiatrist be able to treat addicts who require intensive rehabilitation programmes and close medical supervision? The establishment of private clinics having negative effects on the hospital doctor's professional ethics was also queried.

Bahrain and China to sign economic agreement

BAHRAIN, June 30. (Reuters): Bahrain's Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa will sign an economic agreement during a visit to China starting on Monday, the Gulf News Agency said today.

The agency gave no details of the pact, which would be the first between conservative Bahrain and a communist state. It said Sheikh Mohammed would also hold talks with his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen on regional issues and relations.

Bahrain and China established full diplomatic relations in April 1989, leaving Saudi Arabia as the only Arab nation without diplomatic ties to Beijing.

Qian visited Bahrain in March as part of a week-long Gulf tour to boost China's profile in the region.

Iran today highly valued the Gulf countries' cancellation of Eid Al Adha festivities in sympathy with victims of the Iranian earthquake.

Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, in a meeting with newly appointed Qatari ambassador to Tehran Ali Bin Abdullah, said that steps of that kind boost social relations with those countries.

Rafsanjani, quoted by Persian service of Radio Tehran, said that the Iranian people were sincerely touched by the Gulf countries' step.

The president hailed in particular Kuwait, United Arab Emirates and Qatar and all other countries in the region in general in this regard.

Education objectives

DIRECTOR of Farwaniya Educational Area, Ibrahim Aba Al Khalil, stressed that each educational curriculum should have specific objectives to achieve national, scientific and social priorities. He added that educational curriculum plays a critical role in encouraging and addressing contemporary challenges in the Arab world.

The official added that each educational curriculum should have general objectives, including other specific and direct objectives aimed at achieving the ability to comprehend and assimilate these discourses. Within this framework, curriculum will provide students with the opportunity to imbibe science more accurately, Aba Al Khalil said.

He added that officials are required to form a cohesive authority to combat destructive concepts and foreign ideology into curricula and the authority should work ceaselessly towards spreading Arab culture and sciences.

These challenges should be executed by reinforcing religious understanding of students in the Arab world. Foreign colonisation which has lasted for centuries has subjected Arab culture to various negative aspects of thought, moral values, and social norms.

Healthy hajis

HOLY MAKKAH, June 30. (Kuna): Head of Kuwaiti medical mission for pilgrimage Ibrahim Jassim Al Modhaf today said that all Kuwaiti pilgrims are in good health and are about to leave for "Mena" area.

Modhaf told Kuna that after an inspection tour yesterday and the day before, that all Kuwaiti pilgrims are enjoying good health.

He added that the medical mission will leave for "Mena" this morning to continue its humanitarian services.

OBITUARY



GORDON WILLIAM EVANS

Expired on 30th June 1990

Mass will be held at the Holy Family Cathedral on 2nd July 1990 at 4 p.m. followed by Funeral Services.

Inserted by sorrowful wife Hilda Sister-in-law Beni and brother-in-law Albert.

Friends and relatives kindly treat this as the only intimation.

Pilgrims in Mina for Haj climax

Two million gather in Makkah

MAKKAH, June 30. (AP): Chanting "Labbaik Allahumma Labbaik," a traditional incantation affirming response to God's call, some 2 million Muslims mounted the plains of Mina today to prepare for the climax of the annual pilgrimage or Haj to Islam's holiest shrines.

Shortly after dawn prayers in Makkah, site of the Kaaba to which Muslims all over the world turn in prayer five times a day, the white-dressed pilgrims began the ascent by car or foot to Mina, a hilly spot about five kms (3.1 miles) from Makkah.

Men wear seamless garments while the women don floor-length white gowns and headscarves.

The ascent continues throughout the day in what may be the world's largest traffic jam. But Saudi authorities, who have been funneling billions of dollars over the recent years to modernise and expand roads, overhead bridges and tunnels, reported a "smooth" operation.

Shaded awnings were also constructed so that pedestrians will not be subjected to sunstroke. In heat that was recorded at 45 degrees Centigrade or 113 Fahrenheit.

Official statistics released on the occasion also recorded that the number of Muslims who came from outside the kingdom for the Haj this year was 827,236. These converge on the kingdom by land, sea and air from all over the world weeks ahead of the Haj's culminating rituals.

They are joined by at least a million from inside the kingdom, an estimated half of which are either Saudis or expatriate residents

also performing the Haj, and the other half who come for the mammoth servicing tasks.

According to the teachings of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH), the pilgrims will have to stay the night in Mina where they will pray four prayers, two in the daytime and two after nightfall.

Thousands of fire-resistant tents have been erected for pilgrims to use during their temporary stay in Mina which may continue up to three more days after the climax of Haj.

The ascent to Mina signifies the formal start of the pilgrimage rituals which will culminate tomorrow when the pilgrims will stand at Arafat, a valley surrounded by mountains about nine kms (5.5 miles) further away.

The "guests of God" will leave Mina early tomorrow for Arafat where they keep assembling until sunset. The stand at Arafat is considered the peak of rituals as anyone who misses it will not be considered to have performed Haj.

The day is spent in reading the Holy Quran, supplicating and praying afternoon and twilight prayers together.

At sunset, the pilgrims leave for Muzdalifa, another valley where they will stay for the night.

They then return to Mina to throw pebbles at Satan and at dawn on Monday start to slaughter sheep in commemoration of Prophet Abraham's (PBUH) offer of his son to God. This starts the three-day Eid Al Adha or feast of sacrifice.

The Haj is one of the five pillars of the Islamic faith, to which an estimated one

billion adhere throughout the world. Muslims who are healthy and can afford it are required to perform the Haj at least once in their lifetime.

The ritual comes to a climax the following day with the celebration of Eid Al Adha (feast of sacrifice), when hundreds of thousands of animals will be slaughtered.

Thousands of officials have been deployed for the Haj, boycotted by Iran for the third year in protest at a quota on pilgrims and ban on political demonstrations.

Strict security has been in force since 1987 when about 400 people, mainly Iranians, died in clashes with security forces who moved in to break up demonstrations.

One pilgrim was killed and 16 wounded last year when bombs exploded near Makkah shrines. Saudi Arabia beheaded 16 Kuwaitis after finding them guilty of planting the bombs.

Iran wants to send 150,000 pilgrims rather than the 45,000 allowed under the quota introduced after 1987. Talks this month failed to resolve differences.

Every able-bodied Muslim who can afford to must perform the Haj at least once. Saudi Arabia has said it will foot the bill for more than 1,500 Soviet Muslims expected to attend.

Prince Majed bin Abdulaziz, governor of Makkah and president of the Central Haj Committee, said the government had spent 24 billion rials (\$6.4 billion) on projects for the pilgrimage.

These included the expansion of holy sites, the building of bridges, roads and tunnels and installation of water tanks with a three-million cubic metre capacity.

Municipal transactions

THE Kuwait Municipality Expropriation Department yesterday finished looking into a good number of private transactions protesting pricing evaluation in areas of Jleeb Al Shuyoukh, Agela, Hawalli and others, which will be submitted to the protest committee on its last session scheduled for July 7.

Sources at the department told a local newspaper that the committee will conduct a mini-court procedure to investigate the legality of the amounts paid and the methods employed in arriving at these amounts, whether conforming to rules and regulations or not.

Indian embassy

EMBASSY of India in Kuwait will remain closed on Monday the 2nd July, 1990 on the occasion of "Eid-Al-Adha."

National Council to redress pertinent issues

Service charges under fire

JASSER AL JASSER, member of the National Council (NC) praised the qualitative level of members of the NC who were appointed by HH the Amir last week and wished all members success in their respective undertakings.

He commented that he was confident that the NC will play an active role in the coming stages to ensure a good life for the Kuwaiti people. He added that members of the NC are well aware of the problems that faced Kuwait during the last critical period and will take all appropriate measures to redress these issues.

Jasser also praised body and formation of the new cabinet which he said included a number of young, but highly capable and qualified office-bearers. "We have a new government and a NC that represents and seeks to achieve the demands and needs of the Kuwaiti people," he said.

Making these statements in an interview with Al Seyassah, Jasser said that the Kuwaiti people will be eagerly looking forward to the role that will be played by the cabinet and NC during the coming stages — specially in relation to redressing the economic and commercial life of the country.

He underscored the fact that the constitution of Kuwait is protected and maintained in the integrity of HH the Amir and Crown Prince.

Commenting on the future plans and programmes that will be raised during debate of the NC, he said that members will seriously work to solve economic situation, problems of Savings & Credit Bank and Social Securities Establishment and the relation between citizens and different ministries. He added that solutions recommended by previous cabinet to the economic crisis were not decisive and in some instances, some officials took advantage of their posts by giving some state tenders to their relatives. There should be equality in giving projects and tenders to the national companies, he said. He added that he and his counterparts will discuss the feasibility of doing away with some fees and charges levied on public services recently like fees on driving licences, import of maids, airport fees and health examination on new imported labourers. He added that many citizens insisted with

candidates of the NC to lift these fees during the election campaigns.

Jasser pointed out that NC will work to free commerce from some restrictions in order to stabilise the local market and maintain prices of commodities. Dealings between Chamber of Commerce with foreign companies as being the sole representative of Kuwaiti merchants should be restudied, Jasser said and accused the chamber of being partial in its dealings. Further, it does not tend to encourage or protect interests of the new or small merchants, he added.

Commenting on the agricultural situation, Jasser said that agricultural sector faces several problems. The relevant authorities do not encourage Kuwaiti farmers. There are also more than one authority or ministry that intervenes in this sector although there is a concerned authority that is the Public Authority for Agriculture, he said.

He expected that the NC will establish bases of parliamentary life in Kuwait in future. He added that Kuwaitis do not like sectarian or racial parties. Kuwait is considered one party.

Fishermen's diwaniya Moral and financial support requested

HEAD of the Fishermen's Diwaniya, Abdullah Mohammed Al Shareeda has requested financial and moral support to the Diwaniya as it has no budget to provide members with their financial requirements.

In an interview with a local daily, he said that the Diwaniya provides members with parking lots for their fishing boats and is a gathering area to exchange talk, entertainment and a venue for social activities.

Shareeda added that the fishermen's diwaniya has not yet been popularised by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour as it has not allocated any special budget for this seafaring community. Presently, he said that expenses are defrayed from membership fees only and called for a representation between the diwaniya and the ministers council.

Shareeda commented that HH the Crown Prince had contributed generously to the affairs and well-being of the diwaniya, but said that having a representative will form a link between them and the ministers council. He also called for extending special security patrols at specific times near the diwaniya.

Protection

Naser Youssef Al Zaid, a patron at the diwaniya called for providing their fishing boats with adequate protection by providing barricades during storms that lash the boats and uproot them from their moorings. He said that they have spent huge sums of money to buy their fishing boats which represent their only source of income. He said that the diwaniya had requested the ministry of labour to pave some of the grounds, but no action has been taken.

Sulaiman Taha said that the ministry of interior set times for fishing starting from 6.00 am until 6.00 pm. He pointed out that some demand fishing during evening times which is unsecured for them. Therefore we call upon the public to understand this situation which is for the general interest.

Saleh Bu Sefer called upon concerned officials to provide the diwaniya with fishing boats security protection. He added that so far they have no source of income to create a budget.



Trailer overturns

Three men were injured, including the driver, when a trailer overturned near a hospital on the Al Adan roundabout en route to Sulaybiyah. No one was killed. (Photo by Ahmed Imad)

Towards self-sufficiency

Local vegetable oil industry to replace imports, says report

ACCORDING to an industrial report, the growing demand and great growth of consumption rates in the Arab Gulf countries have supported the emergence of local vegetable oil industries to replace imports. This has led to the establishment of quite a few vegetable oil industries in the region.

The reports said that the factories basically recycle imported raw vegetable oil with limited capabilities for oil extraction by compressing imported seeds.

The report, released by the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consultancies, (GOIC) said that due to the strategic importance of this industry, extensive efforts have been extended with the objective of achieving food security and self-sufficiency. The organisation has conducted a feasibility study to set up a compressing unit for vegetable oils with the potential to meet the needs of existing oils recycling factories from raw oils, instead of importing these oils from abroad.

The study pointed out that the total output capacity of existing recycling factories, located in Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Oman and

the UAE, is 423,000 tons. The output capacity of oils extraction factories is 141,000, divided between 112,000 in Iraq and 29,000 in Kuwait.

New factories

The study said that many new licences have been issued for setting up new oil extraction factories at large output capacity in Saudi Arabia at 485,000 and Oman at 29,000 on an annual basis. The estimated consumption rates of vegetable oils in the region during the year 1988 is 431,000 tons and this figure is expected to rise to 565,000 in the year 2000.

The study arrived at a number of conclusions and recommendations based on the total consumption and current demand rates in the Arab Gulf countries, the most important of which is that there is a considerable need to set up a 200,000 ton annual output project for compressing and extracting vegetable oils from soyabean and sunflower seeds to be annexed to one of the existing vegetable oils recycling factories.

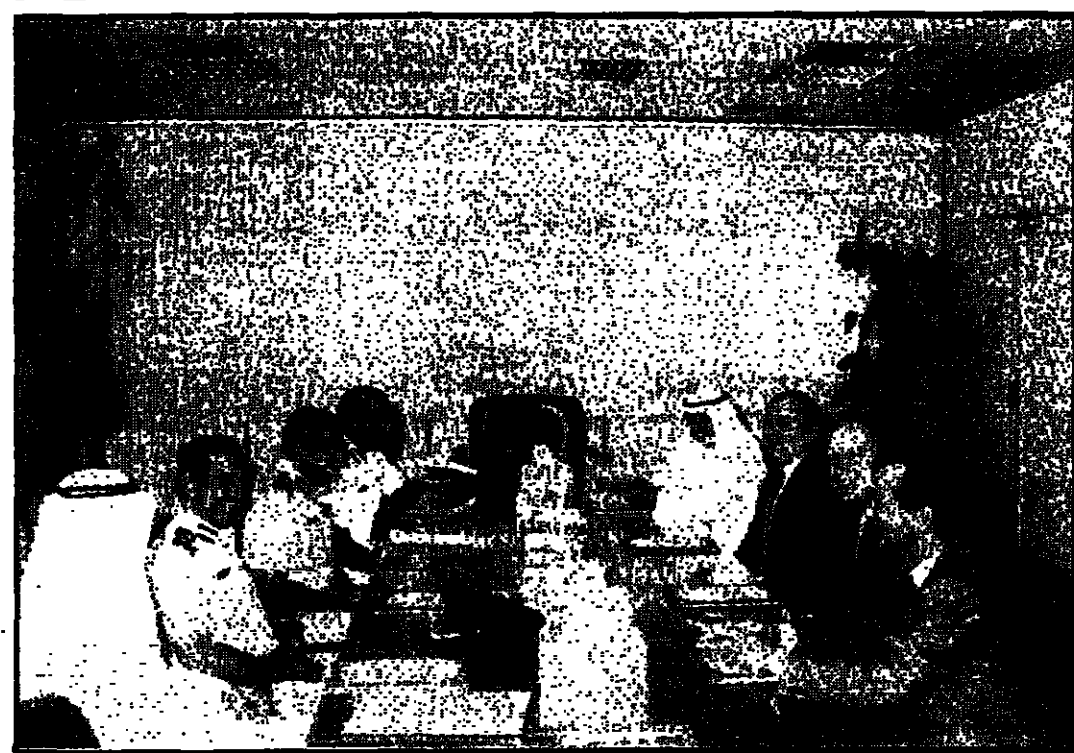
MEW contract

THE Ministry of Electricity and Water will contract with two companies — one to design and the other to supervise a project for the supply of drinking water to Kuwait from the Shatt Al Arab in Iraq.

Speaking on the issue, Dr Humoud Al Rqobah, minister of electricity and water said that the contract will be signed with the two companies after the Eid Al Adha holidays.

Studies will soon be carried out to determine the feasibility and viability of installing water metres in residential flats. Readings will be taken every two months. However, he said that there is still no law which obliges building owners to install metres for flats. However, he expected co-operation in this respect.

Meanwhile, the minister signed a contract last week with the German firm "Siemens" to design and execute the project to modernise the National Control Centre in Jabriya area to cope with the increase of power production and development of electrical networks. The total value of the contract is KD23 million.



Patrol boats contract signed

Interior Ministry Undersecretary Youssef Bader Al Khorafi has signed a contract for the purchase of two patrol boats for the Coast Guard Department with Abdullah Al Sayied Hashem Al Gharbally local agents of the Australian ASE Ship Manufacturing Company.

Present at the signing ceremony were the director general of the General Department for Installations Security and Special Troops Brigadier Youssef Al Mishari and the director of the General Department for Financial Affairs Faraj Al Odwani.

From the courts

NOC traders sentenced to jail

THE Misdemeanour Court sentenced one man to one month imprisonment with hard labour and another to three months imprisonment with hard labour. Five other accused in the same case were acquitted.

The court was informed that the first convict brought labourers for money by sending them their no-objection certificates to work in Kuwait. The other convict was the owner of the company which the five labourers were contracted for.

The court released the five men due to the fact that they came to Kuwait with good intentions. The complaint was introduced to authorities by them on the account that the first convict was demanding

KD750 for each no-objection certificate.

Alleged smuggler:

A MAN from Thailand who arrived at Kuwait International Airport was arrested on the charge of smuggling valium tablets to the country. Customs officers at the airport found 14 valium tablets in the accused's suitcase along with other drugs which were not listed in the legal narcotics list at the ministry of interior narcotics department.

The market value of the tablets was estimated at KD1.670 with a custom's fine of KD.570. The court released the accused due to his clean record and the small size of narcotics.



Hajji visits KAC

The director-general of the General Traffic Department Brigadier Abdul Hameed Hajji Abdul Raheem paid a visit to Kuwait Airways Corporation and was received by the chairman of the board and managing director Ahmad Al Mishari.

Brigadier Hajji lauded the positive contributions made by KAC and staff and their co-operation particularly during the 7th GCC Unified Traffic Week. Brigadier Hajji presented the KAC chairman with a memorial shield.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

KEEP an open mind and be receptive to modern ideas
— Jawaharlal Nehru, Indian nationalist leader (1889-1964).

Siberia labour camp

Spoon relates suffering tale

PEVEK, Soviet Union, (Reuters): A small silver spoon tells the story of thousands of prisoners who suffered in a Siberian labour camp set up under the rule of Josef Stalin in the Soviet Far East.

"When I eat, I say nothing and hear nothing," reads an inscription scratched on the spoon, found amid a cluster of brick barracks and wooden crosses atop a graveyard in the camp and signed with the name Volkov.

A recent visit to the camp, the first by foreign journalists, revealed conditions perhaps even worse than those described in the acclaimed works of Varlaam Shalamov and Eugenia Ginzburg, who endured the notorious Kolyma camps in northern Siberia.

Located

Located at the tip of the continent about 80 km (50 miles) outside Pevek, the camp was given the name "Severn", the Russian word for north.

Even prisoners who managed to survive a starvation diet of water and bread, died from exposure to temperatures reaching minus 70 Centigrade (minus 100 Fahrenheit).

Set on a mountain overlooking the Arctic Ocean, the camp is an intimidating illustration of naked human power and cruelty.

A path still remains where emaciated prisoners assigned to work in a uranium mine were forced to climb an enormous stairway each day. The stairway connected a lower camp, where the mine was located, to an upper camp where the prisoners slept, about 1,200 (3,900 feet) above sea level.

"Even though it would have made more sense to have the prisoners sleep near the mine, the authorities feared they would escape, so they made them live high atop the mountain," said Nikolai Vasiliev, a geologist who is studying the camp.

From 1950 to 1960, the years Severn was believed to have operated, about 20,000 political and criminal prisoners lived there at one time. Most survived an average of only two to four years.

Horror

The Severn camp is considered perhaps the most extreme example of human horror established during the Stalin period — a time of purges, show trials, fabricated plots, executions and mass exile.

No precise figure has been placed on how many people perished in camps throughout the Soviet Union. But Western historian Robert Conquest has estimated that 20 to 40 million people died between the early 1930s and the 1950s. Stalin died in 1953.

Efforts to destroy the Stalin legacy have prompted a public crusade in Siberia.

It began in 1986, after Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of glasnost lifted a shroud of secrecy that had surrounded the revived dictator.

Now, in the port of Magadan, a city in Siberia built with prison labour and used as a depot for dispatching prisoners further north, an organised effort is under way to identify camp survivors and to learn about camp history.

The effort is being inspired in part by some camp survivors who settled in Magadan when their exile ended.

Asir Sandler, 72, a former prisoner who was transferred thousands of kilometres (miles) by train for a decade in camps in Azerbaijan, the Ural mountains, the Far East and Siberia, tried to live in Moscow after his exile.

But he found people were intolerant of his experiences.

"My whole life is shaped by the camps, so I decided to return to Magadan," said Sandler, a spirited man who had been sentenced to death, but wrote a plea for mercy and had his sentence commuted to 10 years.

Even for some Magadan residents who were never prisoners, the camps are carved into their childhood memories.

"There was a camp near our house," recalled David Reisman, 49, who was born in Magadan.

"We would throw bread and cigarettes through the barbed wire for the prisoners and they would throw us toys. Then the guards would shoot into the air to scare us away," he said.

Memorial, a national grassroots organisation with a chapter in Magadan, has identified at least 100 camp sites stretching from Magadan into the Far East.

Survivors

A map of the suspected sites hangs in one corner of Magadan's Pushkin library. When survivors from across the Soviet Union come to the library, they are told to indicate the location of where they were sentenced during the great purges.

"We know so little about what happened even though Magadan was where thousands of prisoners marched through the streets," said Miron Altis, a camp survivor and president of the local Memorial chapter.

The group is planning to build a monument this year on the mountain top in Pevek. A larger memorial complex is scheduled for Magadan, where a small monument now stands in the town's Central Square.

Many camp survivors and their relatives are concentrating their search for the missing pieces to the labour camp puzzle in the Kolyma region.

Of all the forced labour camps during the Stalin era, Kolyma stood out not only for its cruel regime, but also for its high mortality rate. Prisoners were forced to walk more than 400 km (250 miles) in bone-chilling temperatures to the Kolyma camps from Magadan — a 14-hour journey by car.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1499 — War breaks out between Turkey and Venice.
- 1535 — Sir Thomas More is tried for treason in England for refusing oath of supremacy.
- 1543 — England and Scotland sign Greenwich treaties to secure peace.
- 1775 — Spanish force fails to reduce pirate stronghold in Algiers.
- 1781 — British force under Eyre Coote defeats Indians under Hyder Ali, saving Madras from destruction.
- 1810 — Louis, King of Holland, abdicates under pressure from Napoleon Bonaparte.
- 1839 — Turkish fleet surrenders voluntarily to Mehmet Ali at Alexandria, Egypt.
- 1890 — Anglo-German agreement is signed, under which Britain exchanges Heligoland for Zanzibar and Pemba.
- 1895 — East African protectorate is organised after dissolution of British East Africa Company.
- 1910 — Union of South Africa becomes a dominion of British Empire.
- 1926 — Anglo-Portuguese agreement is reached on Southwest Africa-Angola boundary.
- 1931 — Anti-Chinese riots break out in Korea.
- 1962 — Africa's Rwanda republic and kingdom of Burundi gain their independence.
- 1966 — France withdraws all its armed forces from integrated NATO military force.
- 1967 — China's Communist Party proclaims overthrow of president Liu Shai Chi.
- 1968 — Britain, Soviet Union, United States and 58 non-nuclear nations sign treaty to curb spread of nuclear weapons.
- 1972 — Protestant Ulster Defence Association sets up steel barricades in Protestant areas of Belfast, Northern Ireland.
- 1989 — Israeli troops shoot and wound 24 Palestinians.

Ethiopia war prevents coverage

Media has to highlight famine

DESSIE, Ethiopia, (UPI): You cannot just have a famine these days and expect people to pay attention. It has gone beyond that.

You need concentrated publicity, TV pictures of starving children, stark newspaper coverage and a generous helping Western government guilt. A famine needs to become a media event before anything is done about it.

That is the view of a number of senior relief workers co-ordinating the trucking of famine food into drought-ridden parts of Tigray, Ethiopia, this year. What worries them greatly is that the spread of civil war in the region has made the creation of a media event impossible. There won't be any TV pictures, because neither government nor rebels will sanction outside visits to areas at risk of famine.

The government has no access, because it has lost military control. The rebels say they are not really set up to take aid workers or journalists to any but a few selected locations.

"If there is one thing the international community could do, it would be to force a ceasefire in this war," says Takele Tefera, who runs the world food programmes trucking depot at Kombolcha, 130 miles (210 km) north of Addis Ababa. "If it wasn't for the war, there would be no famine."

Rebel

In June, Ethiopia announced it would allow the rebel-held port of Massawa, 470 miles (760 km) north of Addis Ababa, to be used to move food to people at risk of starvation in Eritrea this year.

The government also said it accepted rebel terms for a peace conference, in particular a condition that UN observers participate in talks.

The announcements followed a joint US-Soviet statement welcoming both concessions and agreeing to an airlift into Ethiopia by the two superpowers.

The Ethiopian government, the United Nations and the country's main church groups have all estimated that over 4 million people risk starving to death in Tigray and Eritrea this year. The government's Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner Yilma Kassaye says so far, as far as he knows, no one has died.

"And we don't want to lose a single life," he says. But Tefera is less optimistic.

"It is only logical to assume that people have died," he says. "In some of these places there has been no harvest at all."

"People are walking now — 30 or 40 kilometres down from Maychew to Korem, even the 90 kilometres up to Makalle," he says. "They are making for the places they remember."

It was at Korem in 1984, 250 miles (400 km) north of Addis Ababa, that the British Broadcasting Corp. filmed the scenes of utter human misery that quite suddenly put Ethiopia and its famine problem on the world map. Until then, although food shortages

had been growing since 1982, the situation was overlooked, ignored or played down by donor governments.

Problem

A recent report by human rights group 'Article 19', which campaigns against censorship worldwide, highlighted the problem.

"Western aid donors consistently reacted to the reports and appeals with cynicism (which) bred a weary fatalism throughout the remainder of the aid system," said the report, entitled "Starving in Silence."

In 1988, as famine loomed again, the government of President Mengistu Haile Mariam took a strategic decision to move out of Tigray province altogether. It reasoned that by taking its troops away, hunger would do its work for it, driving the ordinary population to rise up against the Tigray People's Liberation Front.

The idea didn't work. Instead of rebelling against the TPLF, which has tried for 13 years to overthrow central government in Ethiopia, the local farmers joined up by the thousand.

This had three effects.

"Instead of guerrilla warfare, it has now gone to a traditional war," believes Tefera.

Secondly, as church-based joint relief programme deputy co-ordinator Mulugeta Engete explains, the mass enrolment has created the characteristic food production problems of a traditional war — the male half of the population is missing from the fields.

"You don't get what you need," Engete says. "There are not any farmers that are farming."

"There always used to be pockets of surplus and pockets of shortage. Now the surpluses are not moving because the rebels have mobilised the farmers."

Loss

And thirdly, the total loss of government road access to all territory north of Dessie, 15 miles (25 km) north of Kombolcha, has created the information vacuum that so troubles the convoy organisers.

A West German television crew has been flown up to Kombolcha and Dessie to shoot a report on famine relief efforts.

The crew looks gloomily around the world food programme camp. "It's an impressive sight — long, green warehouses bask in the heat of a 10 o'clock sun. Big white-painted sheds house thousands of spare parts. Trucks are backing up, a team of teenagers is stripping down the hydraulics of an old Mercedes. Stark mountains ring the valley town."

But it isn't television. The crew is trying to make an 8-minute feature. They film the mechanics working on the trucks. They film a few talking heads. At Dessie, they film a team of casual labourers loading 10-ton trucks by hand with donated US wheat grain. The sacks weigh 112 pounds (51 kg) apiece and the

workers chant like Roman galley slaves as they sling the heavy bags onto their shoulders.

"Be strong, never tire. Be strong, never tire. You can be strong forever," translates a bystander. It makes "good sound."

But it still isn't television. The crew is unhappy. How can they tell the story of a famine convoy with showing it arrive? How can they convey the whole point of the business without showing food distribution? Viewer reaction is going to be slight.

There is another side to the information barrier in northern Ethiopia: in practical terms there is very little information about the condition of people in Tigray and Eritrea.

The government assesses that 1.2 million people in Eritrea are at risk from hunger, 800,000 in Tigray, and 2 million spread over the rest of Ethiopia — including 700,000 pastoral nomads. An additional 500,000 displaced people, mainly in Asmara in Eritrea, are likely to go short of food, says commissioner Kassaye. The total government estimate is therefore 4.5 million.

No one much argues with these figures, but then as JRP co-ordinator Aktulu Dufera points out, there is no other data to use.

"This (JRP) plan is based on one year ago," he admits openly. "We think we had 500,000 people in Tigray to feed this March, 750,000 in April to June and 1.011 million in July to December. But we don't know. Some are expecting all the figures to be much higher."

"Yes," agrees deputy Mulugeta. "We are going to make a survey in Wollo with the TPLF in the next few weeks. But we still know nothing about Tigray. For now, frankly speaking, this is a 1989 plan."

There is a grim practicality to all these men. They know that the 100-odd trucks they can hope to keep on the road in the next month will probably only carry a fifth of the food needed, perhaps only one tenth. They calculate that each food recipient needs 30 pounds (14 kg) of food per month — grain, milk powder and oil. A million month of food shipments, the JRP managed to deliver only about 1,000 tons to Makalle.

"If too many people come to the distribution centres," says Tefera starkly, "we would have to cut the rations. What else could we do? It is a logistical problem. That's all."

Major Lemma, a veteran of the logistics game, who works with the US-based Catholic Relief Services, stares away up the dusty, barren road to the north. There isn't a scrap of cover and nothing seems to be growing.

"I remember," he says, "how 30 years ago this whole road, all the way from Addis, was lined with trees."

To be continued

Party congress important to West

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): For once, a Communist Party Congress may mean as much to the West as it does to the Soviet Union.

The meeting set to open on Monday in Moscow is being watched closely by North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) allies as a measure of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's strength and the degree to which he may be able to take crucial decisions on German unification and arms control.

"This party congress could have important implications for all the issues the Western leaders will be discussing" at their Nato summit in London July 5-6, said Michael Mandelbaum of the Council of Foreign Relations in New York.

A Western diplomat was more explicit. "The Party Congress is a crucial point... Gorbachev has to get through that first before he comes to terms with anything," he told Reuters.

Ouster

Gorbachev, who came to power in 1985 and often has been predicted by some American analysts as on the verge of ouster, is facing another formidable challenge.

Under attack by Soviet radicals who complain his reforms have not gone far enough, he is also increasingly criticised by hard-liners who blame him for the decline of the once all-powerful Communist Party and "losing" Eastern Europe.

This is all expected to culminate at the party congress and for that reason, there have been suggestions the meeting should be postponed because Gorbachev's forces may not be strong enough to put down a serious political threat.

Professor Marshall Goldman, head of Harvard University's Russian Research Centre, has long predicted Gorbachev would soon be out of power and views the debate over delaying the congress as a Gorbachev manoeuvre and a sign of desperation.

The Soviet leader "knows what's happening — his opponents on right and left have taken the party from under him — and he is trying to hold on for dear life," he said.

"I don't think he'll rally," Goldman added. Few US analysts are that definitive, however. If the Congress is postponed, "it will mean Gorbachev is on the one hand weak enough to want more time to rally his forces, but strong enough to get a postponement," Mandelbaum said.

The Soviet leader "doesn't seem very strong in the



party although, paradoxically, since the party is so unpopular, the more the party criticises him, it will probably increase his popularity in the country," he said.

But Mandelbaum cautioned: "We are in a period of enormous uncertainty" as regards the Soviet Union.

One major item on which Nato is awaiting a deal is German unification. This is inextricably tied to the future of all Europe.

Moscow has been resisting unification on grounds demanded by the West, including a united Germany's membership in Nato.

The issue is an emotional one in the Soviet Union.



which lost an estimated 20 million citizens in World War II.

Beginning last February, Yigal Ligachev, a Politburo member who is Gorbachev's leading conservative critic, began publicly blaming him for "losing" Eastern Europe.

The US official said that because of such "sea changes" in the Soviet system permitting open dissent, Gorbachev himself may not know how far he can go on German unification.

Nevertheless, Francis Miko, a Soviet expert with the Library of Congress, said that even if Gorbachev were ousted, "I don't believe his successor could reverse (German unification) or slow it down substantially."

Letters to the editor

Sind problem

SIR: Dr Haider Mehdi, in his letter entitled "Human conflict" which appeared in the June 16, 1990 issue of your newspaper, had ascribed the spate of violence that erupted briefly in Sind to a deliberate policy decision on the part of the federal government in Islamabad to resolve the problem in Sind by force. Dr Mehdi went on to advise that the ethnic problem in Sind should be dealt with in a democratic perspective through consultations between the concerned parties.

Dr Mehdi's basic premise is factually incorrect and his advice is superfluous. The cycle of violence that erupted in Karachi and Hyderabad was initiated by ethnic groups and has been fuelled by such irresponsible statements by the MQM leader, Altaf Hussain urging his followers to "sell your TV and buy a gun". The government could not remain indifferent to this situation and, in the interest of law and order, had to react to put an end to the violence initiated by ethnic groups.

While fulfilling its constitutional duty of main-

taining law and order, the government of Pakistan is fully conscious of the need to arrive at a political solution to the issues involved. But this is possible only through the co-operation of other parties. A major group is the MQM, headed by Altaf Hussain. The MQM contested the 1988 national elections as a political group and secured an adequate representation in the National Assembly. Why then does the MQM not use this forum to ventilate its grievances rather than resorting to street action. Mehdi states: "The pluralism which is an explicit and fundamental notion of democratic principles cannot possibly function unless the political system makes room for accommodating a diversity of views on issues confronting a nation." When tendering this sage advice, I hope Mehdi was aware that the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Moh-tarma Benazir Bhutto specially toured Hyderabad and Karachi to initiate a dialogue that could result in defusing the situation in Sind.

The leaders of the ethnic groups chose not to respond. Undeterred, the prime minister convened an "all parties conference" to work out a solution. Two groups, the Jiya Sind and MQM saw fit to boycott this meeting as well.

It is clear that the government is committed to a political solution and is willing to spare no effort towards this end. At the same time, the government cannot but react strongly to attempts to disrupt the law and order situation, particularly when foreign agents have indiscriminately fired into innocent crowds to aggravate the situation. It cannot, under any circumstances, condone a situation that threatens the life and safety of innocent citizens. The firm action of the government to establish law and order in Karachi is now showing signs of success. It is the duty of all Pakistanis to co-operate in this effort.

Syed Iqbal Hussain,
Press and Cultural Attache,
Pakistan Embassy,
Kuwait

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Art Buchwald

Jane wasn't a marriage threat

I HAVE to be honest with you. I miss Jane Pauley.

I didn't know how much I missed her until I turned on the "Today" show the other morning, and they gave me Joe Garagiola instead. What kind of quid pro is that?

I have nothing against Deborah Norville, but Jane and I had coffee with each other for 13 years. I'm just not used to having a strange woman watching me while I put on my shoes and socks.

Everyone at NBC now admits that they made a mistake taking Jane off the show. Jane was warm and loving and a credit to her sex. The reason she was well liked was because she wasn't a threat to our marriages. Not once during all the years she was on the air did I ever hear my wife say, "If Jane looks at you one more time, I'll scratch her eyes out."

Yet Deborah seems more like someone who might make a husband cut himself while shaving. I have never lust after Deborah in my heart for only two reasons — one is because I've been true to Jane Pauley and, secondly, I never let anything interfere with my eating a hearty breakfast.

There were misgivings in the news department at NBC when they let Jane go, so the network vice-presidents (with the economy drive, there are only 11,546 of them left) decided to hire Faith Daniels to read the news.

They hoped that Faith would help us forget what they had done when they hired Deborah. This is hard to do because, although Faith is very beautiful, she looks a lot like Deborah. I can't tell the difference between them. As a matter of fact, there are some mornings when I can't tell the difference between Deborah, Faith and Willard Scott.

I know they're putting Jane on the evening news — but that isn't when the American people need her. They need her in the morning when her cheery smile and calm countenance are the only things that can get kids off to school.

The terrible thing about television is that when one network changes something, then all the networks have to change their shows.

Just at the moment when Jane Pauley bid us goodbye, CBS dropped the bomb on Kathleen Sullivan. How much can an early riser take in one month? Must confess that I liked Kathleen Sullivan very much. Whenever Jane went to the World Fair in Seattle, I watched Kathleen. Miss Sullivan is sultry and sexy and is exactly the type of person to watch when you have a cold and the furnace is on the blink.

They took Kathleen away and replaced her with Paula Zahn. I have nothing against Paula. She can come into my home and interview Dustin Hoffman any time she wants to. But it's not the same CBS show. All Kathleen had to say was "Read my lips," and I broke my nose on the TV screen.

What I'm driving at is that NBC blew it with Jane Pauley, and I'm not sure Joe Garagiola will be able to step into her shoes. I'm willing to give him a chance.

But if he is going to win me over, the least he can do is wear one of Jane Pauley's dresses and high heels to show us that he wants the job.

Morning TV is a dirty business, and the reason for this is that the networks are dealing with a tough audience. "Today" served divorce papers on Jane because some stupid research company claimed that "Good Morning America" had younger women watching it. What the research people didn't tell NBC is that if there is nothing wrong with something, don't try to fix it with two blondes and a bald guy who used to catch for the St. Louis Cardinals. Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Unification will put economic stress on US

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): The rebuilding of Eastern Europe, which takes a giant step forward on Sunday with the economic merger of East and West Germany, will force the United States to curb its appetite for borrowing, financial experts say.

German unification promises major new business opportunities for US firms, but Washington will be under pressure to get its fiscal house in order, the experts say.

The two German states merge their economies on Sunday as a prelude to full political unification.

"There will be big opportunities for capital goods exports to Germany," said Robert Hormats, director of the Wall Street firm of Goldman Sachs International.

But Hormats, former assistant secretary of state for economic affairs, said overall US growth could be slower because of upward pressure on interest rates.

Share

The United States has long been used to the lion's share of the world's supply of savings to finance its budget deficit, which could reach \$160 billion this year.

The changes in Europe mean Germany will shift to being a borrower of capital rather than a supplier as it invests heavily in the reconstruction of formerly state-run economies.

"The United States has been absorbing savings. Now Germany will absorb savings," Robert Solomon, a scholar at the private Brookings Institute, said.

Solomon, a former director of the Federal Reserve's International Finance Division, said the events in Europe meant even more urgent an agreement to slash the US budget deficit.

"I hope the people doing the budget negotiating understand that and that it gives some impetus to come to agreement," Solomon said of the congressional and White House conference on the budget.

"There is no question that expected returns on foreign investment are higher in East Germany than other parts of the world. There will be some impact on US interest rates," Donald Ratajczak, director of forecasting at Georgia State University in Atlanta, said.

Reunification could attract \$150 billion a year in new investment capital from investors, which could push up world interest rates by 10 to 15 per cent, Ratajczak said.

سندھ کا مسئلہ

Quake ended pleasant evening

MANJIL, Iran, June 30, (AP): The evening of June 20 was pleasant in the Alborz Mountains northwest of Tehran. The day's heat ended abruptly at sunset and the high winds that roar down the slopes each afternoon had calmed.

Most people went to bed early, but many younger men and teenage boys stayed up to watch the recorded World Cup soccer match between Brazil and Scotland broadcast by Iranian television.

A flash of lightning brightened the sky at 12.31 am and was followed in seconds by a terrible roar. It wasn't thunder, but the sound of great plates of earth's crust moving far below the Caspian Sea to the north.

Violent shaking began, and lasted one minute. Houses were flung about like ships on a stormy sea.

People screamed. Roofs fell in. Walls fell away from buildings and others collapsed inward.

Sobella Karimi, 27, was sleeping with her husband, two sons and two daughters.

Her husband yelled at her to take the boys to the doorway because that was one of the strongest parts of the house. She made it, but the roof fell and killed her sons as she held them.

Horrible. Seddigh Musavi, 25, said: "It was horrible. People were crying and running and trying to find relatives."

Musavi wept in her hospital bed, where she was recovering from leg and head injuries. She was knocked out by falling debris and regained consciousness in the hospital, where she learned her three sons were killed and her husband was injured.

At the Taromian House, Ali, 18, and his brother, who had been watching the soccer game, struggled to the second-floor hallway that ran down the middle of the house.

The outside walls and most of the rooms next to them fell away. Ali and his brother waited on their perch. Several hours later, neighbours put boards up so they could walk down. Their parents, a brother and sister were dead.

Mahasti Kamezani, 15, was asleep on the second floor of her home in a village above Manjil. The rest of her family was on the ground floor.

When the quake started, the others ran outside but she was pinned by falling debris. Her father came back for her. Mahasti couldn't answer his calls because of the weight of the roof on her chest. But he finally found and freed her.

A jeep took her to the main road, which was blocked by landslides. A helicopter came in the morning and took Mahasti to a hospital in Tehran.

Scenes The scenes were repeated in tens of thousands of homes along the fertile Sefid River valley, where rice grows from villages south of Loshan to Rasht, on the Caspian shore in the north.

Thousands of deaths were reported as far away as Zanjan, about 60 miles (96 kms) across the mountains to the west.

Destruction was virtually complete in villages above the valley. Simple structures of clay or mud bricks crumbled and slid down the barren, gray-brown slopes.

All the buildings were destroyed in Rostamabad Olia, an upland village north of Manjil. Relief workers said 80 per cent of the residents were killed.

Extended families are large in northwestern Iran. A 55-year-old man from Manjil stopped digging in what had been his home and wrote "50" on his dusty palm with a ballpoint pen. Gestures and minimal English made clear that was the number of relatives he had lost.

The death toll throughout the quake area surpassed 40,000 and was expected to continue climbing toward 50,000. About 200,000 people were injured and more than a half million left homeless.

Damage Structural damage to buildings occurred as far away as Qazvin, the old capital about 55 miles (88 kms) southwest of Manjil.

Windows were broken even in Tehran, 125 miles (200 kms) to the southwest.

Sudan rebels destroy military convoy

NAIROBI, June 30, (UPI): Rebels in southern Sudan used the first anniversary of a coup in Khartoum to taunt the government with a further claimed military victory today.

The clandestine radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, monitored in Nairobi, said the anti-Islamic rebels had wiped out a big government convoy sent to relieve troops under siege at the town of Yei, 830 miles (1,330 kms) south of Khartoum.

The broadcast said rebel soldiers had ambushed the convoy, en route from Maridi, 100 miles (160 kms) north, on Tuesday, and warned that similar attempts to relieve Yei, besieged since January this year, would be crushed.



Lashing out at critics

Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani delivers a speech during a Friday prayer on June 29 in which he lashed out at Iranians who criticised the government for accepting earthquake relief from longtime enemies. (Reuters wirephoto)

Hezb rally in Beirut

Anti-West chants

BEIR AL ABED, Lebanon, June 30, (UPI): Pro-Iranian Muslim fundamentalists chanting "down with America" demonstrated in densely populated areas south of Beirut yesterday as a leader of the militant fundamentalist group urged Arabs to maintain a hardline anti-Western policy.

Some 3,000 Lebanese, Iranians and followers of Hezbollah, a group believed to be holding 16 Western hostages, marched through the streets of Beirut Al Abed denouncing the United States.

Observers said that the demonstration was mobilised with a ferocious anti-US spirit. They said it appeared Hezbollah was trying to show Iranian hardliners are still in control of Hezbollah and that Iran and its allies are not softening their policies toward the West despite significant Western relief contributions after last week's earthquake.

Brandishing large coloured pictures of the late Ayatollah Khomeini, protesters in Beirut Al Abed chanted "down with America".

Nidal's leadership in the refugee camp of Rashidiyah, near the port city of Tyre, 46 miles (74 kms) south of Beirut. He said 300 Arafat loyalists launched a pre-dawn attack against FRC headquarters in Rashidiyah on June 18, killing four of Abu Nidal's followers and wounding 12 others.

The clash was seen as the first serious confrontation for control of Abu Nidal's group, and Hamdan said the attack followed a series of assassinations of FRC leaders and "suspicious attempts to incite trouble inside the camp."

Hamdan said Arafat, in an attempt to cover up the Rashidiyah attack, portrayed the conflict as an internal struggle between rival FRC factions.

"He brought in suspicious elements who were known for their collaboration with the Israeli enemy during the Israeli invasion in 1982 and backed them when they announced the formation of a breakaway FRC faction," Hamdan said.

Hamdan accused Arafat of masterminding a rebellion against Abu Nidal, broke away from Arafat's mainstream Al Fatah Movement of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and founded the Fatah Revolutionary Council in 1973.

Hamdan accused Arafat of masterminding a rebellion against Abu

Hezbollah's Secretary-General, Sheikh Sobhi Al Tofeili, joined the procession and told the crowd Arab countries must maintain a hard line against the West, which he said was waging an open-ended war against Muslims world-wide.

He said Iran is as hardline as it was during Khomeini's rule. "Many people had thought that the world would change its treatment of Iran after the passing of Khomeini, but they have maintained a hostile attitude," said Tofeili.

A leader of the demonstration also shouted "don't forget that the shooting of the Airbus plane bloodied the heart of Ayatollah Khomeini," referring to the US downing of a passenger plane in the Gulf in the summer of 1988. Tehran had charged that the plane was intentionally shot down by a US warship, but Washington said the plane was hit accidentally.

Hezbollah, which emerged in the wake of the 1982 Israeli invasion of the country, has waged an anti-Western campaign since 1984.

Abu Nidal accuses Arafat of inciting battles in camps

BEIRUT, June 30, (UPI): The Fatah Revolutionary Council, a Palestinian group led by Abu Nidal, yesterday accused PLO chairman Yasser Arafat of inciting inter-Palestinian battles in South Lebanon refugee camps to crush Nidal's faction and please the United States.

Mansour Hamdan, spokesman for the Fatah Revolutionary Council, made the accusations during a news conference held at FRC headquarters in the Mar Elias refugee camp in West Beirut.

"The Palestinian camps in South Lebanon are living in a very tense security situation which may lead to a destructive inter-Palestinian battle," he said.

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Nidal's leadership in the refugee camp of Rashidiyah, near the port city of Tyre, 46 miles (74 kms) south of Beirut. He said 300 Arafat loyalists launched a pre-dawn attack against FRC headquarters in Rashidiyah on June 18, killing four of Abu Nidal's followers and wounding 12 others.

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Survivors still in a state of shock

Remote villages in Alborz mountains swallowed by slopes during quake

RASHT, Iran, June 30, (UPI): Survivors, still in a state of shock from the June 21 earthquake which destroyed their homes in the Alborz mountains, were settling into tents set up by volunteer relief workers at several points.

A United Press International reporter who travelled along a mountain road from Tehran to the Caspian coast, narrowly missing death when a huge boulder rolled down a slope toward her, saw several camps at places like Manjil, Roudbar and Ganjeh.

Corpses had been cleared from the rubble in the bigger towns, and health workers were spraying disinfectants over what remained of the towns to prevent epidemics from breaking out.

Wednesday and Thursday the survivors

attended memorial ceremonies for their dead, already buried in mass graves close to the rubble of the towns and villages.

At Ganjeh, a large village deep in the mountains, survivor Morteza Alipour told UPI: "Many people were dug up from under the rubble by survivors and relatives. We knew where they were."

"My father knew at the time of the quake which corner of the room his child had rolled to. This was how we looked for bodies," he said.

"But what happened here was nothing compared to our village," Alipour said. There were villages in the mountains which relief workers knew very little about, he said.

There were villages of "anywhere between 20 and 100 houses up and down these

mountains. You will find that they have been swallowed by the slopes," he said.

Alipour led the UPI reporter for two hours up a gravel pathway from Ganjeh to a place called Upper Ganjeh. A farming community of 100 to 150 residents lived here till June 21. Now, nothing stirred. Some structures were left half standing, like centuries-old ruins.

"No one survived here. If they did, it is now too late," Alipour said. "A cousin and I walked up the mountain first thing Friday morning (June 22). We came to see about our kin, to find this. Where could we start, without help," he said.

Many villages were connected only by gravel pathways on the mountain slopes, Alipour said. "Only locals, like the mountain goats, know these pathways. Relief

workers cleared towns like Roudbar and Ganjeh but they had difficulty getting here."

"There are 850 villages in the Deylaman district alone," the survivor said. He related stories of many women who went insane after the June 21 tragedy.

"We found three survivors under a collapsed home in Ganjeh Tuesday — a young couple and their 8-year-old daughter," he said. "When the mother regained consciousness and looked around, she started screaming and demanded we find her younger child."

"A beam had fallen near where she had left the infant (before the quake). Tens of people came to lift the beam but we could not do so," Alipour said. "The woman has since gone insane," he said.

Tehran appeals for tents, housing

TEHRAN, June 30, (AP): Authorities conducting the rescue operation in the wake of the devastating earthquake last week issued an urgent appeal for tents today.

The appeal came as government agencies concentrated on salvaging farmland and trying to bring life to normal in the quake-stricken areas.

Vahid Dastjerdi, head of the Red Crescent Society, said there was an urgent need for 50,000 tents in Zanjan and Gilan provinces where hundreds of thousands of people were left homeless.

The society has said the quake last Thursday, measured between 7.3 and 7.7 on the open-ended Richter scale, killed at least 40,000 and injured 60,000.

Dastjerdi said with winter approaching in five months, 80,000 prefabricated houses would be needed for temporary shelter.

The provincial welfare organisation has taken 6,000 families, numbering 13,000 people, into its care because the breadwinner was killed in the earthquake, Iran said.

The Agriculture Ministry said 90 per cent of the famous rice fields in the worst hit areas, 200 kilometres northwest of Tehran had been saved.

The ministry said the area once had a livestock population of one million and efforts were underway to collect survivors, bury carcasses, disinfect the area and compensate for losses.

The prayer leader of Rudbar, one of the worst hit areas, expressed thanks yesterday for the foreign and Iranian aid pouring into the region and asked that it continue.

Iran said members of Czech relief team who set up a field hospital after the quake returned home yesterday as did the 205-member French relief team.

President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani thanked the world yesterday for its "beautiful" help after Iran's devastating earthquake and said critics of the aid were like "pestering flies."

A fourth British plane loaded with relief supplies will leave for the Iranian earthquake zone on Monday, it was reported in London today.

A spokesman for the British Red Cross said that the Iran Air Boeing 747 plane bound for Tehran would carry 100 tonnes of supplies, worth around 640,000 pounds.

President Corason Aquino sent condolences and medicine to Iran for victims of last week's devastating earthquake that killed up to 50,000 people, the Philippine Foreign Office said yesterday.

(Reuters)

Shamir hopes for a common approach

'There's enough room to reach agreement'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 30, (Agencies): Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said a letter he sent to US President George Bush in reply to a Washington peace plan could lead to a new joint approach to Middle East peace.

"Shamir tonight expressed his hope that his letter to President Bush and the forthcoming answers from Washington will open a new and promising chapter in the peace process in the Middle East," Shamir's spokesman Avi Pazner told Reuters in a statement yesterday.

"He (Shamir) said that there is enough room to reach an agreement with the

United States on a common approach for the continuation of the peace process," Pazner said.

The statement followed Bush's vow to get unprecedented talks between Israel and Palestinians under way even if the United States had to "get back to the drawing board."

One Israeli official said Shamir's letter rejected a key element of the US plan — the inclusion of deportees and Jerusalem Arabs on the Palestinian delegation — but Pazner and US administration officials in Washington denied this.



Egyptian foreign minister Esmat Abdel Meguid (left) is greeted by his Italian counterpart Gianni De Michelis in Rome. (Reuters wirephoto)

Gulf war peace talks: Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati left Tehran yesterday for United Nations-sponsored talks in Geneva about a Gulf war peace settlement.

Velayati and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz will meet UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar separately on Tuesday to discuss implementing Security Council Resolution 598. (Reuters)

'The Naked Gun' withdrawn: An American movie which caused a diplomatic row with Iran because it made fun of the late Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini was withdrawn from Turkish theatres by its distributor on Friday.

Mehmet Oztuyg, a spokesman for United International Pictures, told the semi-official Anatolia news agency that "The Naked Gun" would no longer be screened in this country.

The film, which includes a brief segment lampooning Khomeini, had been showing in five theatres in Istanbul and one in Ankara for the past two weeks. (AP)

Israeli radio calls Makkah pilgrim: Israel's armed forces radio placed a rare telephone call to Makkah yesterday and spoke to an Israeli Arab on pilgrimage to Islam's holiest shrine.

Pilgrim Hassan Abdel-Aziz told the radio: "It's terribly hot. Every 10 metres (yards) you want to drink water. (But) I do not regret it, I am satisfied."

Abdel-Adi made the three-day journey from his home in northern Galilee to Saudi Arabia by coach. He said 3,500 Israeli Arabs were making the haj this year. (Reuters)

Morocco to help Oman: Morocco is to help the Sultanate of Oman restore 19 of its ancient desert forts, government officials said yesterday.

Under a protocol scheduled for signing in September, Moroccan technicians will also train Omani artisans in restoration work, said Mahmoud Saleh, fort restoration department director at the National Heritage and Culture Ministry.

"We have chosen to use Moroccan expertise because they are more experienced in this field of work, they have successfully restored some of our forts here already and they work well with our teams," Saleh said. (AP)

Swedish businessmen acquitted: Two Swedish businessmen, including an ex-director of the Nobel Industries arms and chemicals group, were acquitted on Friday of charges that they illegally smuggled explosives to the Middle East.

Mats Lundberg, former marketing director of Nobel subsidiary Nobel Kemi, and Karl-Erik Schmitz were found not guilty after an appeals court hearing. (Reuters)

Israeli Army jails soldier: The Israeli Army has jailed a soldier for 21 days for spray-painting offensive slogans in Arabic on a mosque in the occupied West Bank city of Nablus, an army spokesman said yesterday.

Nablus residents said soldiers painted the slogans on a mosque door after finding a spray-paint cache used by activists in the 30-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation. (Reuters)

Sudan pledges new political future

Govt of Al Bashir turns a year old

KHARTOUM, June 30, (UPI): On the anniversary of the coup which brought it to power, Sudan's military government promised today to convene a national conference in August to shape the country's political future.

Military ruler Gen. Omar Al Bashir, who overthrew democratically elected Prime Minister Sadiq Al Mahdi on June 30, 1989, announced the popular participation conference in an address to the troubled Sudanese nation.

He gave few details of the proposed conference, other than to say it would ensure unity of all elements of Sudanese society and would reject past formulae for government, including individual dictatorship, one-party or sectarian rule.

Most of Al Bashir's lengthy speech was dedicated to criticism of the country's former political parties — now all banned — and to pledges of economic recovery and self-sufficiency in the future.

He noted that his government — a 15-man

military junta — had established good relations with Libya, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and neighbouring African states.

Al Bashir has made several pledges to alter the struggle of his government, which has operated so far by decree, promising in March to form a political party of national unity at grass-roots level.

Like a number of other stated policy goals, such as putting an end to Sudan's 7-year civil war, the reorganisation has so far failed to materialise, however.

On seizing power last year, the junta pledged to win the war against the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, a southern, mainly black African group opposing the increasing Islamisation of Sudan by successive Khartoum governments.

Successive military setbacks led to two sets of inconclusive peace talks last year, since when the bloody civil war has dragged on much as before.

Over half a million people have died as a result of the conflict since 1986, killed outright

or starved to death, according to human rights group Africa Watch.

In a major report earlier this year, Africa Watch attacked the conduct of the war and Al Bashir's human rights record in general. In a report Thursday, Amnesty International endorsed the attack, highlighting torture, killing of political opponents and mass detentions without trial.

In March the United States cut economic and military aid to Sudan under a rule which automatically suspends assistance to governments which abolish democratic freedoms for more than eight months.

Severe shortages of many basic commodities continue to plague the people. Al Bashir's government has warned Sudan's 20 million inhabitants that there are more hardships to be borne before the situation gets better.

During June, the government announced price increases of up to 50 per cent for commodities like gasoline, tea and cigarettes.

Cyprus protests Turkish action

NICOSIA, June 30, (AP): Government spokesman Akis Fantis said today that Cyprus protested to the United Nations over the arrival of more mainland settlers in the Turkish-occupied part of the war-divided island.

Fantis said instructions have also been given to all the Cypriot diplomatic missions to protest the Turkish action to the governments of the countries where they are accredited.

Fantis said, "the arrival of more settlers is yet another indication of the continuing policy of Turkey to colonise the occupied area, something we constantly denounce internationally."

He said the latest wave of settlers were ethnic Turks from the border region of Bulgaria who had recently moved to Turkey.

The Greek-Cypriot Karpas Refugee Committee protested yesterday that 19 families of Turks from Bulgaria had recently been installed in Greek-Cypriot villages in the eastern Karpas peninsula.

The committee also charged that the Turkish occupation troops "intensified their harassment and intimidation" of the last 519 remaining Greek-Cypriots in the Karpas. This number, mainly elderly men and women, are also the only Greek-Cypriots still left in the whole of the Turkish-occupied north.

The committee said the Turkish intention was to force the remnants of the formerly predominantly Greek-Cypriot region to move to the southern, unoccupied part of the island.

Cyprus President George Vassiliou arrived in Damascus today for talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, pledging that the island would not become a transit point for Soviet Jews emigrating to Israel.

Vassiliou, on his first visit to Syria since becoming president two years ago, was greeted at the airport by the Syrian leader.

EVENTS

Around town



Students welcomed

THE British Council last week held a reception to brief foreign students going to Britain about educational facilities and what to expect when they join their colleges in that country.

Hundreds of students of several nationalities go to the UK each year for higher studies. This year, the British Council's educational office decided to talk to the students before their departure and answer their queries.

British Council staff explained what the 'National Curriculum' is: how the state school system works; what the new school leaving exam — GCSE — is all about. Information was also given on primary and secondary school education in England and Wales. A set of briefing notes on how to live in Britain was also given to each of the guests who attended the reception.

Pictures (clockwise) show some of the students and their parents with the Council's staff at the reception.



The American Ice Capades skating team, which was recently in Kuwait to perform at the Skating Rink, was invited to lunch by Ali Noor and his

wife at the Chinese Silver Star Restaurant. Above: Ali Noor pictured with the Ice Capades team.

Musical farewell

THE Sur Sangeet group will hold a musical evening to say goodbye to outgoing Indian First Secretary S.M. Mathur, who leaves Kuwait shortly after completing his tenure in Kuwait.

It will be held on July 19 at the Indian Embassy Hall.

Mathur, who is well-known among the Indian workers for his assistance to labourers, is a music-buff and holds regular musical evenings at his home.

The show will be directed by Ustad Edwin Dass and Wilfred Daniel. Some of the performers are Valencia Daniel, Rosebud Daniel, Laxmi Raju, Charlie Dass, Shahnawaz Karim, Sabina Karim, Abu Bakr, Singh and Thakur.

The musical evening is strictly for "families", and entrance is by invitation.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.15 Nabia Wa Saleh: cartoon serial
- 9.40 Iftah Ya Simsim
- 10.10 Good Morning
- 10.30 Kana Ma Kana: children's serial
- 11.15 News Summary
- 12.00 Haj: live from Saudi Arabia, covers pilgrims leaving for Arafat.
- 1.30 News Summary
- 1.35 World News via Satellite
- 2.00 Sanavar: cartoons serial
- 2.30 Saif Haar: Gulf serial; featuring Saleh Bin Za'al Al Faris, Saud Al Darmiki, Amina Abdul Rasool.
- 4.00 Kunooz La Tade'a: "Al Lisan". Starring: Abdullah Ghaith, Rubab, Mohammad Al Subei.
- 5.30 Adventures: cartoon serial
- 6.00 Haj: live from Saudi Arabia, covering the journey of pilgrims from Arafat to Muzdalifah.
- 7.30 You and Your Health: presented by Dr Hussein Momin.
- 8.15 Diwanat Shuara Al Nabt: poetry session
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.45 Uyoun Al Akhreen: Arabic serial; featuring Bost, Abu Bakr Ezzat, Hamdi Ahmad, Ahmad Abdul Aziz.
- 11.00 Makhloot Ismahu Al Mara'a: "Al Sariqah". Starring: Farouk Fishawi, Shahira, Amina Rizk, Hasan Hussein.
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 World News via Satellite
- 1.20 Holy Quran/closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Macaroni: cartoon serial
- 6.30 The Beachcombers: an automobile accident is the cause for concern in tonight's episode as Relis and Nick try to work out the problem. Starring: Bruno Gerussi, Robert



Peter Strauss (right) and Sam O'Neil play the lead in Kane and Abel, tonight's best-seller. KTV 2 is repeating the best-seller on popular demand.

- Clothes.
- 7.00 The Natural world: Land of Kiwi. A look at wildlife in New Zealand.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Haj and Omra: "Waqf Arafat" — stopover in Arafat, and the rites of Tawaf Al Wida'a.
- 9.30 E.N.G.: "A friend in Need." A television reporter films an explosive story. Will it be shown on the network?
- 10.30 Best Seller: "Kane and Abel", based on Jeffrey Archer's best-selling novel about the rise of two powerful men and their hatred for each

- other. Part one. Starring Peter Strauss and Sam O'Neil.
- 12.30 News in Brief
- 12.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Sport TV Ch. 6/45

- 5.00 Sport Shots
- 5.50 World Cup Soccer: West Germany vs Czechoslovakia; live from Italy.
- 9.50 World Cup Soccer: Cameroon vs England; live from Italy.

Please note that Kuwait Television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Al Ragassah Wal Siyaseen (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Obeid, Salah Qabil

Al Salmiya
Arabic play

Al Hamra
Ya Azizi... (Arabic)
Starring: Mohammad Abdul Aziz, Laila Alwi

Drive-In
Al Falaheen Abham (Arabic)
Starring: Saeed Salem, Hayatim

Al Firdous
Do Musafir (Hindi)
Starring: Rekha, Shashi Kapoor

Fahad Open-Air
Phir Wohi Raat (Hindi)

Al Fahad
Five Deadly Angels

Al Jahra
— Chunaoti (Hindi)

Granada
Arabic show

Salaikhbat
Dance of the Dwarfs

Al Jeeb
Nair Saab (Malayalam)

Ahmadi Drive-In
Hanafi Al Abahahu (Arabic)

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.17 am
Zuhr	11.52
Asr	3.26 pm
Maghreb	6.52
Isha	8.23

All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

WHAT'S ON

Social

Kapilku
July 19: Kapilku awards certificates of attendance to those who attended tailoring, book-keeping, basic accounts and basic computer courses. The ceremony will be held at Al Araliya Restaurant, 8 pm. Philippine Ambassador Maung Mohammad Tamano will be the chief guest. Buffet dinner, KD 3 per person. Proceeds will go towards the school fund.

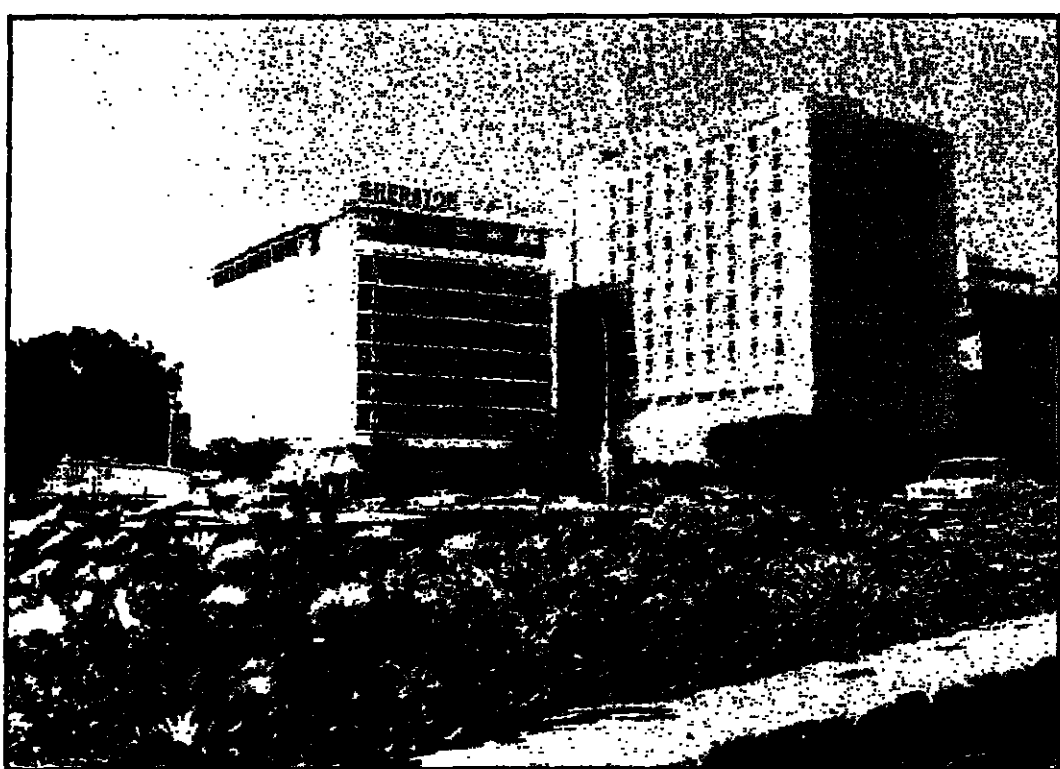
Those who attended self-improvement classes are asked to contact Sarah Macarimbang. Tel: 4839009, 4839889, 4843447.

Natya Bharati
Natya Bharati calls amateur dramatists to audition for their fourth Hindi production entitled "Bad Buji" (The Big Aunt), a full-length comedy which will be performed in mid-October. Required: a female lead, young smart lady, past stage experience would be an asset, two supporting actresses, character actors, a middle-aged man with a good personality and two young men in their early 30s. Genuinely interested people who plan to stay in Kuwait during summer holidays can contact 4880965 or 5625810 after 1.30 pm or 3721545 after 8.30 am for further details.

Summer Belle '90
Aug 2: UGC will hold "Summer Belle '90" at the SAS Hotel's The Tent. Top Ranks and Hurricane Alley in attendance. More details later.

Weekend Club
July 2: The Weekend Club will hold "Red and Black Night" at Regency Palace Hotel. Highlights include selection of the Red and Black Queen. The "Man of the Year" award will be announced. Top Ranks and Stepping Stones bands in attendance. Dress casual but strictly red and black combination. For details contact Julio Cardozo. Tel: 4313425; Hilary 5741380; Mercedes 4890566.

Beat show postponed
July 12: The Beat Festival, scheduled for July has been postponed indefinitely. It was due to be performed at the Anak Restaurant.



Eid Al Adha special

Kuwait Sheraton Hotel offers a special Eid Al Adha package for a week of enjoyment and fun. Al Hamra features Arabic nights, plus luncheon buffets; entertainment by Gli Amici Band. Its Italian Riccardo Restaurant offers pasta specialties for lunch and dinner with Duo Franco and Regina in attendance. And Le Tarbouche features buffet lunch and dinner, with live old music. And The Duo Fantasy serenade in the Hunt Room, which features lunch and dinner. Above: A view of the Sheraton Hotel.

Pakistan Embassy
The Embassy of Pakistan will remain closed from July 2 to July 7 on the occasion of Eid Al Adha. Normal working will resume on July 7, according to an embassy press release.

LIL
July 9: LIL will be holding their monthly big meeting on Monday, at Sheraton Hotel, Ballroom A, for a social evening, from 7 to 10 pm. For details contact Julie. Tel: 5391150.

D'Aassisi Association celebrates 10th anniversary
Oct 4: Holy mass at 6.30 pm at the Holy Family Cathedral, Kuwait City, followed by a social at 8.30 pm at the Messilah Beach Hotel. For more details please contact Tel. No. 2469811/12 or 3717346 after 5.30 pm.

Hotels

At the Sheraton
Al Hamra: luncheon buffet and daily Arabic Night with music by the Ramous Gli Amic Band.

Riccardo: lunch and dinner featuring past dishes; evening entertainment by Duo Franco and Regina.

Hunt Room: Special lunch and dinner for Eid Al Adha; Duo Fantasy Serenade.

Le Tarbouche: buffet luncheon and dinner through Eid holidays; entertainment by out player.

At the Holiday Inn
Eid Schedule:
Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop: luncheon buffet as well as a la carte menu: 12 noon to 3.30 pm. Dinner — 6.30 pm to midnight.

At the SAS
Bistro: Sunday/Wednesday — pasta night; Italian music. Peacock Room: Chinese cuisine; lunch and dinner. Al Boom: Kuwaiti experience; charcoal grilled food, plus mezzeh buffet. Clock: snack bar — burgers, french fries, etc.

At the Meridien
La Brasserie
Thai Corner: Saturday night. Cowboy Night: Every Sunday, with live country music. Chinese Corner: Monday night feature. Greek Taverna: Mediterranean magic with bousouki music. Indonesian corner: on Wednesdays; food prepared in front of you. Jazz Night: New Orleans atmosphere on Thursday night. Friday: Oriental luncheon buffet; family day. Versailles: Business lunch; and a la carte dinner.

At the International
Fallaka: situated on the 19th floor, overlooking the coastline, it offers international cuisine; live entertainment in the evenings. Closed on Fridays.

La Palma: offers buffet as well as a la carte. Family style brunch on Fridays.

Kei: offers Japanese dining in an oriental atmosphere. La Patisserie: selection of snacks; pianist in the evenings. Al Waha: ice cream promotion featuring different flavours, until August 1990.

At the Messilah Beach
Al Mubarakiah: open around the clock; seafood promotion on Wednesdays, 7 pm; Fridays — Middle Eastern cuisine.

Al Jawharah: Thursday special — special menu; music by Rainbow Band.

Al Berdowneh: BBQ on Thursday in beach-garden restaurant; Lebanese food.

At the Plaza:
Al Dallah Coffee Shop: international cuisine; open buffet plus menu.

Lolouwah Corner: snacks and refreshing summer drinks. Marco Polo: Italian ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.

At Ramada Al Salam
Al Bender Coffee Shop: Arabic and Continental buffets, lunch and dinner; also a la carte; open 6 am to midnight.

Al Mawardi Open-Air Cafe: open from 6 pm to midnight.

Al Gandoul Grill Garden: open after 6 pm; grilled food. Friday brunch: 12 noon to 3 pm, ship discovery tour, entertainment for children and cartoon-strip characters.

BBC World Service highlights

Wallace — the man who was the fiction factory

EDGAR WALLACE, author of *The Four Just Men*, was an extraordinarily prolific writer. He published 173 novels, 16 plays, several film scripts and literally thousands of articles and short stories.

Wallace found it difficult to interest a publisher in *The Four Just Men*, his first novel, so he conceived the practical notion of publishing — and publicising — the book himself.

He organised a competition with a prize of £500 for whoever could provide the solution to the mystery — in effect, the last chapter of the book.

Even now an intriguing uncertainty shrouds the result of that competition.

The event was typical of Wallace's hectic life, and John Foley's feature charts that life, from Wallace's birth in London's East End to his death in Hollywood while writing the screenplay for the film *King Kong*.

The Four Just Men, Wallace's action-packed turn of the century thriller takes us back to the dangerous world of four mysterious idealists. They have vowed to right any wrongs they find around the globe — crimes the law is powerless to avenge, or measures which place the innocent in danger or repression.

The *Four* arrive secretly in Britain to persuade the Foreign Secretary, Sir Philip Ramon, that he should withdraw what they see as an unjust measure, the Aliens Extradition Bill, which he is passing through parliament. If he fails to do so, they say that at a specific time on a specific day, they will murder him!

The forces of the Metropolitan Police are marshalled to protect Sir Philip, but the *Four* will stop at nothing to carry out their devilish plan. Geoffrey Whitehead plays the beleaguered Foreign Secretary in this thriller, adapted by Colin Davis for BBC. It is directed by David Hitchinson.

On Monday, listeners can hear the first of a two-part adaptation of *The Four Just Men*. (Local time: 10.30; BBC's recommended frequencies — 17.01m; 19.91m; 25.51m).

Off the shelf: Frederick Forsyth's latest spine-chilling thriller *The Negotiator* weaves a tale of

political intrigue set in the near future. The right-wing conspiracy is attempting to force from office the US President, who is negotiating arms reductions with the Soviet Union.

The President engages Quinn, reputed to be "the most consistently successful hostage-recovery negotiator in the world," to secure the release of his son, who has been kidnapped while studying in England.

The Negotiator, abridged in ten episodes by Carole Rosen, is read by Terry Molloy. The producer is Nigel Bryant. (Monday; local time 07.30 hours; repeat 17.30 hours; frequencies: 17.01m; 19.91m).

International phone-ins: Rob Watson, producers of the current series, has discovered that the diaries of international leaders can be tricky to match with the BBC's schedules. To help arrange the appearances of important guests, a diplomatic as well as a journalistic operation is put into action, with embassies, high commissions and correspondents around the world advising on protocol and producers.

Once the invitations are accepted, something resembling a military planning session takes place. Technical staff advice on how to go about linking, say, a guest in the USA with the studios in London.

The final guest in this series is South Africa's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Pik Botha. The 60-minute phone-in is chaired by Oliver Scott. Listeners are asked to ring in during the two hours before the 'live' transmission, and while the programme is on air. Up to 15 lines are available for incoming calls in a room next to the studio. Questions are taken down and sifted before being rushed to the producer. Selected callers are rung back at the BBC's expense. To take part, listeners living outside the UK should call London (071) 379-7444. Lines are open from 1200 hours GMT. (Sunday: Local time — 1700 hours; Monday: local time — 0930 hours and 1301 hours; frequencies: 17.64 MHz; 15.07 MHz; 11.76 MHz).

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Oil price key to Anglo-Saudi arms deal

DUBAI, June 30, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia's \$20-billion deal with Britain for sophisticated Tornado jets and other military supplies is on course although weak oil prices could eventually undermine the kingdom's ability to pay.

Gulf-based diplomats and oil industry sources said today the deal was going well but that the price of oil, with which Saudi Arabia pays for the equipment, remained the key to the project's health.

"I can assure you that there are no problems for the time being. It is conceivable that if oil prices stay this low for a long

time there might be a problem. But we are talking about months ahead at current prices," said one source.

Spot prices of crude are running just under \$4 a barrel below Opec's reference price of \$18 a barrel and 30 per cent lower than they were at the beginning of the year. Last year, Saudi Arabia paid over \$1 billion to British Aerospace (BAE), which produces the Tornado, to overcome a cash squeeze resulting from weak oil prices.

A report in Thursday's Financial Times newspaper in London, that the project had again hit funding problems, knocked down the shares of BAE.

But this was quickly followed by denials from BAE, and from Panavia Aircraft GmbH, the West German manager of the Anglo-German-Italian Tornado venture.

The Saudi Press Agency today carried a report quoting Saudi Defence Ministry aide Prince Fahd Ibn Abdullah as saying the project, which includes a vast range of equipment, factories, and military bases, was not in difficulty.

The sources said Prince Fahd, in London for a world ozone conference in his other position as head of the kingdom's meteorological department, held routine talks on the Al Yamamah defence deal

with British Defence Ministry official Alan Thomson.

Oil industry sources in the Gulf said that any changes in the oil payment structure of the Al Yamamah project would be the first real signs of any future difficulties.

Saudi Arabia initially agreed to pay for the deal, which includes projects continuing well into the next century, with 400,000 barrels per day (bpd) of oil.

British Petroleum (BP) agreed to lift 300,000 bpd and shell transport the balance. The proceeds from the sale of the oil were to be paid to BAE.

Venezuela denies leaving Opec

Energy Ministry heads for showdown with PDVSA

CARACAS, Venezuela, June 30, (AP): The Energy Ministry denied yesterday that Venezuela was planning to leave Opec, and insiders said it was heading for a showdown with the state oil monopoly PDVSA.

A furor broke out after PDVSA president Andres Sosa Pietri was reported to have urged the government party to pull Venezuela out of Opec, the organisation it helped found 29 years ago.

"That is the most absurd thing I've ever heard. Venezuela has never had any intention of leaving Opec. On the contrary, our aim is to strengthen it in view of increasing demand," a ministry spokesman told the AP.

"Policy is set by the president and by the ministry. PDVSA does not set policy," he said.

With a quota of 1.94 million barrels per day, Venezuela is Opec's fourth largest producer after Saudi Arabia, Iran and Iraq.

The daily El Nacional reported yesterday that Sosa Pietri had told top leaders of the social democratic governing party, Democratic Action (AD), that Opec quotas were "against Venezuela's best interests."

Senior AD officials contacted by the AP confirmed that Sosa Pietri met Tuesday with the party's executive national committee.

Sosa Pietri told the committee that there was no reason why Venezuela should continue to follow Opec guidelines, since other members were flouting them openly,

according to the sources, who asked to remain anonymous.

In response to El Nacional's story, PDVSA released a statement saying that it was "strictly complying" with the quotas set by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

The statement did not explicitly deny that Sosa Pietri had called for Venezuela's leaving Opec. Instead, it said that PDVSA "complies and will continue to comply at all times, with the guidelines of oil policy laid down, or that will be laid down, by the national government."

Rumours of power struggles between Sosa Pietri and Armas have been going around for weeks. According to unconfirmed reports, Armas threatened to resign if Sosa Pietri continued going over his head and reporting directly to Perez.

Former PDVSA head Juan Chacin told the AP that at the very least Venezuela should start seeking its "fair share in Opec. We're losing our share of the market by adhering to the quota, while other countries over-produce."

While Chacin, Sosa Pietri's predecessor, was careful to say that he was not advocating leaving Opec, he stressed that it was a "circumstantial organisation. If circumstances change, then other things have to be considered." Opec is not a religion," he said.

Nicaragua plans to pay its debt with Venezuela and intends to renew the accord under which the Central American nation bought oil at a discount, Foreign Minister Enrique Dreyfus said yesterday.

The export prices of Egypt's crude oil will be maintained without change in the first half of July, an Oil Ministry official said today.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the decision was taken by the pricing committee, which conducts periodic reviews of prices.

The Brazilian state oil company, Petrobras, has announced a strike of oil and natural gas 100 miles (170 km) off the coast of Sao Paulo state.

A Petrobras statement said the strike had the capacity to produce 1,800 barrels of oil a day and 2 million cubic feet (37,000 cubic metres) of natural gas daily.

Bahrain

Bush grants tariff break

WASHINGTON, June 30, (Reuters): President George Bush yesterday added Bahrain to a list of countries eligible for reduced tariffs under a programme designed to benefit developing countries.

In a letter to Congress, Bush said Bahrain was entitled to the favourable tariff treatment under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) established in a 1974 trade law.

Bahrain benefited from the programme from 1976 until July 1, 1988 when World Bank data on per capita Gross National Product showed it was too prosperous to meet GSP criteria.

Stocks bounce back

Continued sluggish growth forecast

NEW YORK, June 30, (UPI): The stock market closed out the first half of 1990 with a bounce back from last week's sharp drop sparked by bargain hunting and new confidence that a plan can be found to cut the budget deficit.

The Dow Jones industrial average, rising 1.93 yesterday to close at 2880.69, jumped 23.51 points, or 0.8 per cent, on the week.

Among broad market indexes, Standard and Poor's 500-stock index gained 2.59 to 358.02 and the New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 1.24 points to close the week at 195.47.

Advances led declines 1,025-844 among the 2,174 issues traded this week. Big Board volume totalled 702,897,090 shares, compared with 717,051,020 a week earlier and 810,849,200 a year ago.

The market began the week on a down note. On Monday, fears about interest rates cut short the market's attempt to rebound from the plunge of the Friday before.

Rates rose sharply in the bond market Monday as players prepared themselves for a wave of auctions this week. The 4-year note auction went especially well, however, and helped bonds rebound later in the week.

An unexpected statement from President Bush about the budget deficit also helped bonds rebound from Monday's weakness.

After a two-hour breakfast meeting with Republican and Democratic leaders, Bush reversed his long-standing opposition to tax increases, saying "it is clear to me" that the need to reduce the deficit requires "tax revenue increases" and cuts in domestic spending.

In the early going, treasury bonds rallied on the news and stocks followed, since a lower deficit likely means less government borrowing and more room for interest rates to fall. Some analysts also say a deficit-reduction plan might prompt the Federal Reserve to cut short-term interest rates.

But the absence of details about what types of "tax revenue increases" Bush would accept proved the market's undoing and prices closed lower. Bonds closed higher but off their highs.

Wednesday brought a gloomy earnings forecast from AT&T, which said it expected second-quarter earnings lower than profits in the year-ago period. The company did not specify what its earnings would be and blamed the downturn on weak domestic product sales in some of its businesses.

Caterpillar's stock was punished Monday and Tuesday after making a similar projection that profits for 1990 were expected to be substantially lower than the \$497 million the company earned in 1989.

The selloff in AT&T did not spread through the rest of the market and prices closed higher, as they did Thursday and Friday, when end-of-quarter "window-dressing" buying boosted prices.

"I think the week should be noted more for

the beginning of a recovery from a corrective phase in spite of earnings disappointments in specific stocks," said Dennis Jarrett, chief market strategist at Kidder, Peabody and Co.

It shouldn't be long before Wall Street gets some answers to their questions about the likely course of the financial markets in the second half of 1990.

In the week ahead, bracketed around the July 4 holiday on Wednesday, both the Federal Reserve and the government statistical mills are expected to be making news of keen interest to investors.

The Fed's policy-setting Open Market Committee, or FOMC, meets Monday and Tuesday, under close scrutiny from the Bush administration, Congress and private economists, many of whom have been urging a move toward easier credit conditions.

There are plenty of doubts, however, that chairman Alan Greenspan and his fellow Fed officials will accommodate them.

Analysts wonder whether the Fed will be in any haste to act in advance of the Labour Department's report Friday on employment in June.

"At present, all evidence points toward an unchanged policy at the upcoming meeting, but with some bias toward easing if economic conditions worsen," say analysts at Kidder, Peabody and Co.

If the handicappers are right, the government will follow with data that shows continued sluggish growth in employment and business activity.

Equities on London's International Stock Exchange finished the half year with a gain Friday, but the leading indices dropped from the previous week's close and were far below the records six months ago.

The Financial Times stock exchange 100-share index reached 2374.6 points at closing, up 18.9 points on the day, but 3.9 points down from a week. The Financial Times 30 index closed at 1899.9 points, a gain of 12.1 points on the trading session, but 13.1 points lower from a week ago.

Despite flirting with the FTSE benchmark 2,400 level and raising some hope the market would make a run on the record of 2463.7 set in January, equities lost more than they gained this week after broker's downgrading and a major clothing retailer's profits warning.

On Friday, early gains came when technical considerations related to the June FTSE futures contract dried up and Wall Street's opening proved indecisive.

British Aerospace was 10p lower at 535p after the Financial Times reported that Saudi Arabia's plans to buy \$1 billion worth of Tornado aircraft are in jeopardy.

Allied Lyons helped the brewery sector as it gained 16p to 506p on a S.G. Warburg recommendation that the company looked undervalued.



Shop assistants clean a cold trunk in a shop which will shortly be loaded with Western foods ahead of today's currency union between the two German states. (Reuters wirephoto)

Emerging German challenge

Free market in E. Germany

Hard times to follow

NEW YORK, June 30, (AP): The dawn of a united German economy with a common currency holds out hope to millions of East Germans, and a challenge to the rest of the world.

Sunday's economic and monetary union of the two Germanys should give a big boost to what is already the third-largest capitalist economy in the world, and the powerhouse of Europe.

East Germany brings to the union more than 16 million consumers, an educated work force and a gateway to other Eastern European countries that are turning to the West for help in shedding more than 40 years of socialism.

"Germany long-term is one of the most attractive markets I can think of in the 1990s," says Heiko Thiem, an analyst at Deutsche Bank Capital Corp.

Therein lies the challenge. Germany rivals Japan as the biggest surplus country. Its export earnings have been a critical source of capital for the world economy, especially debtors like the United States.

Now, the money will be needed at home to overhaul roads, factories and the social welfare network in the East.

Increased German borrowing to meet these needs will drive up interest rates at home, and a sharp reduction in German capital exports could mean higher rates around the globe.

David Hale, chief economist at Kemper Financial Services Inc., estimates that upgrading East Germany's public infrastructure alone could cost \$400 billion to \$500 billion. Getting the country's manufacturing and service industries into competitive shape could cost even more, he says.

"The diversion of German excess savings from London, Paris and New York to rebuilding the East will increase the world level of interest rates, not just German borrowing costs," Hale says.

Long-term German interest rates already have reacted to the expected surge in borrowing. They rose as high as 9 per cent this spring from 7 per cent when the Berlin Wall fell.

Although they have eased

FRANKFURT AM DER ODER, East Germany, June 30, (AP): Edda Wallor's husband got his layoff notice before he got his West German marks, a sobering reminder that hard times will follow a historic day.

East Germany opens its borders to West Germany's free market and potent currency tomorrow, a marriage of a sputtering socialist economy and a vibrant capitalist one.

Widespread joblessness and factory closings is a foregone conclusion in East Germany. But a simultaneous burst of new Western investment is considered almost a certainty.

Economists say the variable in that equation is whether East Germans themselves are able, or willing, to take advantage of the new opportunities that are born as the old ones die.

As the free market hurtled toward her, Wallor sat on a park bench on this city on the eastern edge of the East Germany, just over the Oder River from Poland.

The only thing the 51-year-old homemaker planned to buy with her new West German marks was a little security until she and her husband, a construction worker, could find jobs.

He was among scores being laid off because a former state-owned construction company is streamlining its operations to compete with Western firms, she said.

"We'll just wait to see what happens and both try to find jobs," she said. "My husband is 52, but he will try."

How tough the times ahead will depend on "how much courage" East German businesses and individuals have to adapt, said Cord Schwartzau, a West Berlin economist and a leading expert on the East German economy.

Schwartzau said he believes the economic unification of the two nations tomorrow — the prelude to full unification in December — will create an economic juggernaut much faster than many realise.

The territory that is now East Germany "will most likely surpass the economic production of Great Britain or Italy within five years," he said. "I am convinced that will happen."

But he said the transition to prosperity will require shutting down the huge sections of the economy that are least likely to compete.

He said 30 per cent of the brown coal, electronics, textile and chemical industries will have to shut down because of inefficiency.

slightly to around 8.75 per cent, German rates remain above US rates — currently ranging around 8.5 per cent — for the first time in more than a decade.

That trend could persist, says Nicholas Sargen, international fixed-income analyst at Salomon Brothers financial firm.

German rates are likely to remain in the 9 per cent region while US long rates ease toward 8 per cent later this year because of the economy's weakness, he predicts. If it weren't for the increased competition from Germany for capital, US rates

"It's not unlikely that 800,000 of those employed in the industrial sector will lose their jobs within two years," he said.

Schwartzau predicted a "wave of bankruptcies" beginning next week as industries that were once state supported can no longer meet payrolls.

But there are also bright spots, he said. The machine tool industry is strong. He also said 1 million new workers will be needed in the service and construction industries to keep pace with anticipated new development.

There already are signs that many East Germans are ready to adapt. In 1972, the communist government nationalised 10,000 businesses of less than 1,000 workers.

So far, Schwartzau said 7,000 of those have been reclaimed by their former owners — a sign, he said, that there is an entrepreneurial spirit lurking behind decades of socialism.

But he said many of these businesses will need private investment to survive.

Wolfgang Hufenbecher, head of the new East German operations for West Germany's Commerzbank, said his bank has been searching for viable East German enterprises in which to invest.

The big factories have been virtually ruled out and will have to rely on government help, he said. But medium-sized and smaller businesses could get cash.

"We will be very careful in the beginning with these companies," he said. "A lot of these companies probably won't be able to live over the next six months."

Retail shops feel their best chance for immediate survival is to sell Western products.

Months ago, when economic unification became likely, merchants would peddle Western products on the streets in front of stores.

In Frankfurt Am Der Oder and countless other cities during the last few days, East German products were being moved to the street to make room for Western products.

As it begins its economic adventure, the level of optimism among East Germans is a varied as the jobs they hold.

At Baerbel Schwenzer's shoe store, workmen put in new counters and display cases while she busied herself with a dust cloth, waiting for a grand reopening on Monday.

revitalised by German reunification, the transformation of other Eastern European economies and the creation of a single market in Western Europe in 1992, he says. The debt-battered US economy, however, has turned sluggish.

"Europe and the United States basically traded positions," Sargen said. "Europe becomes the most exciting part of the world."

Deutsche Bank's Thiem also sees better growth prospects for Germany, but he believes concerns about higher interest rates are misplaced.

The big US budget deficits helped fuel the longest peacetime boom in history. In contrast, Europe in the 1980s was marked by sluggish growth and relatively high unemployment, spawning the term eurosclerosis.

Today's Europe stands to be

No 'drastic' change seen

OECD forecast

PARIS, June 30, (Kuna): Economic situation in the 24 countries member of the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is not expected to undergo any 'drastic change' in the next 18 months, according to a forecast by OECD.

In its economic outlook for the mentioned period, the OECD noted that economic developments in member countries, except West Germany, are not likely to be affected by the dramatic political changes in Central and Eastern Europe.

The reason being that OECD trade flow with the Eastern bloc countries is relatively low, representing only 2.5 per cent of total OECD exports or 2.8 per cent of OECD Europe exports, half of which goes to the Soviet Union.

Noting that "West Germany is facing its most important challenge since the post-war reconstruction period" as economic and monetary union with East Germany is nearing, OECD said "these developments do not suggest significant changes in the short-term outlook compared with earlier assessments, in part because no major changes have been announced in the stance of policies."

The OECD said that "while some acceleration of resource flows to central and Eastern European countries can be

expected in coming years, the macro-economic significance of such flows, with the exception of East Germany, is likely to be modest."

"Financing of economic restructuring in Central and Eastern Europe is thus likely to be dependent on strong domestic saving flows," it said.

Economic growth in the next 18 months in the 24-member OECD countries is projected to be around 3 per cent, inflation with no virtual change at 4.4 per cent, unemployment almost unchanged at 6.5 per cent or 25.8 million.

Growth in the US is expected to remain subdued in the forecast period, declining from 3.0 per cent to 2.3 per cent in 1990 and then stabilising at around 2.5 per cent in 1991.

Overall domestic demand is likely to grow around 2 per cent, while trade deficit is expected to fall to between \$100 and 110 billion in both 1990 and 1991.

In Japan, growth of domestic demand is expected to slow down to 3.5 per cent in 1991 and overall GNP forecast to grow by 4.7 per cent in 1990 and decelerate to 4.0 per cent in 1991.

Private consumption in Germany is projected to rise sharply by 3.9 per cent in 1990 and slow down to 3.5 per cent in 1991, and real GNP in parallel is expected to continue to rise from 3.9 per cent in 1990 to 4.0 per cent in 1991.

Tunisian economy recovers

KUWAIT, June 30, (Kuna): Tunisian Minister of Economy and Finance Mohammed Al Ghanoushi today was quoted as saying that his country has recovered after the economic crisis in 1986-1987 when the hard currency reserves were very low.

The minister told daily 'Al Watan' published today that Tunisia's economy began to stabilise after a number of economic facilities taken to encourage investment.

He added that the new investment law which was approved by Parliament in 1987, stressed the freedom of investment.

He noted that Tunisia has entered a new stage in 1986 based on economic reforms, yet such programme faced a difficult time due to the drought and the attack of locust, in addition to foreign debts.

He underlined that the continuation of the Arab and European support helped to go ahead with the economic reforms.

Dassault may get Oman order

PARIS, June 30, (Kuna): The French aircraft manufacturer, Dassault, is likely to be awarded a contract to supply Oman with a fleet of eight Mirage 2000 jet fighters, 'Le Point' weekly magazine reported today.

According to the weekly, these Mirage 2000s would replace the ageing Jaguar aircraft.

"Le Point" further indicated that the deal would include an option for seven other Mirage 2000s and carry an additional clause for the purchase by Oman of missiles manufactured by the Matra group.

Talking about Matra missiles, it has been reported at the Satory weapons exhibition, held last Monday, that Matra has signed a contract to supply Qatar with ground-to-air short-range "Mistral" missiles.

No details were available on the amount of the contract and the quantity of missiles Qatar will acquire.

Algeria trade unions break away from FLN

ALGIERS, June 30, (Reuters): A congress of the Algerian trade union movement proclaimed the union's independence from the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) and voted the old leadership out of office yesterday.

Abdelhak Ben Hammouda, a 44-year-old teacher and independent leader from Constantine in the east, replaced Taieb Belkaid, a member of the FLN Central Committee, as secretary general of the General Union of Algerian Workers (UGTA).

The congress, the UGTA's first since Algeria embarked on the Arab world's most daring

democratic experiment, filled the other 10 seats on the national secretariat with reformist newcomers.

Throughout Algeria's independent history the UGTA has been an adjunct of the FLN, which monopolised all political power until the democratic reforms began to take effect last year.

A new constitution adopted by referendum in February 1989 guaranteed freedom of expression and assembly and the right to form political parties.

By the end of last year, 12 opposition parties had been legalised ranging from communists to Islamic fundamentalists.

Third World airlines facing new threat of mega carriers

GENEVA, June 30. (Kuna): With the world airlines industry in the throes of a revolution, unless the Third World airlines co-operate, they can be squeezed out by the new breed of international mega-carriers emerging in the industrialised world — thus increasing rather than decreasing the old North-South divide, according to "Development Network," a quarterly bulletin of the Aga Khan Development Institutions.

While growth prospects for both passenger air travel and air cargo remain buoyant over the next 20 years, airlines around the world are facing a combination of pressures and fundamental changes which are rapidly trans-

forming their competitive environment and marketing attitudes.

One of the most significant factors is the growing trend of deregulation, liberalisation and privatisation. After ten years of deregulation in the US, the industry in America has become more concentrated than ever before with small airlines disappearing and a handful of so-called "mega-carriers" dominating the market.

Gradual liberalisation in Europe is also leading to greater concentration with the likely survival of only the fittest and the fastest airlines.

Eastern Europe is opening up new prop-

ects on account of the huge pent-up demand for air travel on the other side of what used to be the Iron Curtain.

At the same time, the growing constraints in the international air transport system with congestion both in the air and on the ground, especially in Western Europe and increasingly in the booming air travel markets of the Asia-Pacific region, are now risking to put serious physical limits on the expansion of industry, the report says.

All these global trends also have important if different implications for Third World airlines. In Africa where countries often

regard flag carriers of the utmost strategic importance, there are now moves to try to draw up a collective civil aviation policy to promote the interest of African airlines.

Many African airlines, the report points out, fly older jet airliners, which face the risk of being denied access into Europe if new noise regulations come into force. African governments have thus committed themselves to draw up a joint policy on aircraft noise reductions to ensure that any international noise regulations are compatible with Africa's economic situation.

A combination of factors ranging from

financial constraints to the lack of sufficient trained personnel could seriously hamper the prospects of African airlines. The Boeing Corporation expects to see passenger traffic of African-based airlines grow at an average annual rate of 5.5 per cent during the next ten years, down from an average rate of 8 per cent in the 1970-1989 period.

With competition intensifying in the world airlines market, African governments have agreed to the principle of a phased integration of the continent's 36 scheduled airlines over an eight year period.

Plans have also been aired to set up a regional aircraft leasing and financing com-

pany to rationalise and support necessary equipment purchases and new service investments by African carriers, the report observes.

Another important proposal is the constitution of a joint African Computer Reservation System (CRS) to enable African airlines to compete against CRS systems now in operation in the industrialised world as well as in the Asian-Pacific region.

In contrast to the African continent, the report notes, the Asia-Pacific region is widely regarded as holding the biggest promise of growth for both the airline and aerospace industries.

Bush defends tax increase

Thinking anew for good of US

WASHINGTON, June 30. (AP): President George Bush said he knew he would be skewered for flip-flopping on a tax increase, but compared himself to Abraham Lincoln and declared "I'm thinking anew" for the good of the country.

Bush said Friday he had changed course on the politically explosive issue to break a deadlock in deficit-reduction talks with the Democratic-controlled Congress.

"Look, I knew I'd catch some flak on this decision," said Bush, who has been harshly criticised by many fellow members of the Republican Party for abandoning the "read-my-lips, no-new-taxes" slogan that helped him win the presidency.

"I've got to do what I think is right and then I'll ask the people for support," Bush said.



US President George Bush addresses a press conference at the White House on Friday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Justifying his change, the President said the economy was slower and the deficit now was worse than "any of us visualised" when he made his pledge during the presidential campaign two years ago.

However, the congressional budget office estimated in March 1988 that the fiscal 1991 deficit would be \$159 billion — very close to what the administration now says is the case.

"I'm doing like Lincoln did — think anew. And I'm thinking anew," Bush said.

He did not elaborate on his reference to Lincoln, but was apparently referring to Lincoln's second message to Congress, on Dec 1, 1862, one month before he issued the emancipation proclamation declaring an end to slavery.

Emphasising the need to free the slaves and keep the union intact, Lincoln said, "As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew. And then we shall save our country."

Bush made his comments at a news conference before departing for a long holiday weekend at his vacation home in Kennebunkport, Maine, and trips to London and Houston for two summit meetings with Western allies.

His last piece of business was to veto landmark legislation guaranteeing workers up to 12 weeks of annual, unpaid leave for child birth, adoption or family illness.

"I strongly object ... to the federal government mandating leave policies for America's employers and work force," Bush said.

Questions about his reversal on taxes dominated Bush's news conference, but he also emphasised his opposition to giving cash aid to Moscow to bail out the sickly Soviet economy.

"It is hard for the American people to say, 'Why put \$X-billion of dollars of money into the Soviet economy when it's not reformed, when they're spending 18 per cent of their gross national product on military and when they're spending an estimated \$5 billion (a year) in Cuba,'" Bush said.

"Some of our allies might not be as concerned about that last point as we are," Bush added.

In addition to comparing himself to Lincoln, Bush likened himself to former president Ronald Reagan, who after winning major tax cuts in 1981, had to go back to Congress the next year for the largest tax increase ever.

"Reagan, he said, 'did what was right. And so I think that we're on the right track.'"

Without a deficit-reduction agreement, Bush said, automatic spending cuts totalling \$100 billion could take effect Oct 1, with "draconian" reductions in defence and domestic programs such as student loans.

Bush's declaration earlier this week that "tax revenue increases" were an essential element of any deficit-reduction package was an important impetus for the budget negotiations with Congress.

The negotiators met again Friday and searched for savings in military spending but reached no agreements.

Reduction in US interest rates likely

Help allay stock market concerns

WASHINGTON, June 30. (Reuters): The Federal Reserve, which is responsible for the US money supply, may soon be ready to give the Bush administration and the stock market what they want — a cut in interest rates.

Although few economists expect the Fed's policy-making committee to take action when it meets on Tuesday, an increasing number think an interest rate reduction is likely in the next month or two.

"Around the end of July, we'll probably see a cut," said David Jones, chief economist at Aubrey G. Lanson Co.

That would suit the Bush administration, which has begun to beat the drum harder for lower interest rates as the economy has shown signs of slowing.

And it would help allay stock

market concerns that a weak economy will hurt corporate earnings.

Economists say the federal open market committee may act to nudge down the federal funds rate, which acts as a benchmark for other interest rates, by a quarter of a percentage point, to eight per cent.

The argument for a rate cut rests on a recent spate of statistics showing that the US economy is faltering.

Retail sales have fallen for three straight months, the first time that has happened during the 7-1/2-year expansion, while housing starts have dropped to 1981 recession levels.

"We're projecting growth over the next three quarters of less than one per cent," John Williams, managing director of Bankers Trust Co. said.

'Disloyalty' ruling

Court upholds '88 sentence

PARIS, June 30. (Reuters): French fashion designer Christian Lacroix has failed to overturn a court ruling which found him guilty of "disloyal competition" with his former employers.

A Paris Appeal Court on Thursday upheld a 1988 court sentence which fined Lacroix and fashion backers Financiere Agache 10 million francs (\$1.8 million) for setting up a rival label to the Jean Patou fashion house.

Consultant Jean-Jacques Picart, who left Patou with Lacroix in 1987, was also found guilty.

Lacroix brought the small fashion house unprecedented international attention during his six years as chief designer.

Patou sued when the 39-year-old stylist left to set up his own establishment with \$8 million from Financiere Agache. Agache is a conglomerate controlled by Bernard Arnault, head of the Lvmh Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton luxury goods group.

"We're shocked, especially since Lacroix didn't have a contract," a spokeswoman for the Christian Lacroix fashion house said yesterday.

"But whatever the court's decision, the house does not regret what happened. Lacroix was quite right to leave."

The spokeswoman said the defendants may take their case to the Supreme Court of Appeal.

EEC monetary union begins today

Bumpy road ahead; EMU final form ambiguous

BRUSSELS, June 30. (AP): The 12 European Community states formally embark tomorrow on an ambitious plan for economic and monetary union that may eventually lead to a central EEC banking system and a single currency.

But the road to Economic and Monetary Union, or EMU in EEC jargon, will be bumpy.

For most EEC governments, EMU means one currency, one central bank, one community-wide monetary policy.

To make that palatable to skeptics, notably British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, the EMU's final form has been left ambiguous.

The EEC executive commission has

drafted a three-staged road map.

Under the first stage, starting tomorrow, the EEC nations will more closely co-ordinate their economic and monetary policies and lift remaining barriers to capital movements.

All EEC currencies will join the European monetary system's exchange rate regime which limits currency fluctuations. Also, EEC states will encourage greater private use of the European Currency Unit, a quasi-currency now used mainly as an accounting unit in EEC budgeting.

The next two stages, creation of an EEC Central Bank and a single currency, are

shrouded in uncertainty. The EEC nations will open talks in December on amending the EEC's founding treaty of Rome.

Here are some questions that remain open.

— How much budget discipline must be imposed on national governments?

— Is an EEC Central Bank needed? How must it be organised? To what political institutions will it be responsible?

— Should a single currency replace national ones or be issued in parallel? Should it be the ECU or an existing currency such as the Deutsche Mark?

The current blueprint for EMU is the brainchild of EEC commission President Jacques Delors. Under his plan, the second

stage of EMU starts when the treaty amendments, drafted by the inter-governmental conference that starts in December, come into force.

That could be before the end of 1992 when the EEC is due to effectively dismantle its internal borders.

In the second stage, a European central banking system would begin operations and EEC currencies would move toward fixed exchange rates.

During the third stage, the exchange rates would be permanently fixed and the EEC currencies replaced by one currency.

France, Italy, Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands and Spain have supported most parts of the Delors plan.

Markovic plans to privatise companies

BELGRADE, June 30. (AP): Reformist Premier Ante Markovic announced plans yesterday for the cut-rate sale of state companies to workers in a bid to stimulate productivity.

Yugoslav sources and Western diplomats said the move may be the biggest effort yet in Eastern Europe to transfer ownership from the state to the managers and workers.

Up to 70 per cent of state-owned firms could eventually pass into the hands of retired and active workers, who would buy shares, media reports indicated.

Markovic's government, which took power last March, has moved quickly to introduce market reforms as a way out of Yugoslavia's worst-ever economic crisis.

Since he announced his reforms in December, Yugoslavia has slashed its foreign debt from \$23 billion to 16 billion and tied the dinar to the West German mark, creating the first convertible currency in Eastern Europe.

About 1,100 new joint ventures involving 1 billion West German marks (\$600 million) were launched between January 1989 and April 1990.

It is not clear how freely shares from state companies could be traded, if at all. A stock market is just emerging in the country and many bank managers are unskilled in assessing risks.

Addressing a parliamentary session, Markovic said that as of July 1, companies will be able to freely fix workers' wages "if these can reflect the companies' performance on the market."

He added, however, that any eventual pay hikes would be paid not in money but in company shares. "To accelerate the process of privatisation."

The Hungarian government yesterday announced plans to finance the country's budget by imposing steep price increases on coal, heating and electricity.

Government spokesman Balazs Laszlo told reporters that prices for coal will be raised 45 per cent, for central heating 42 per cent and for electricity nearly 26 per cent.

Comecon currency: The Soviet Union will use convertible currencies in dealings with other members of the Soviet-led economic bloc

BRUSSELS, June 30. (AP): The Soviet Council of Ministers, or government, which made the decision, officially notified the secretariat of Comecon and the central banks of the 10-member countries on Friday, Tass added. (Reuters)

Siemens unveils: Siemens, the huge West German electronics and household appliances company, said Wednesday it will invest 1 billion marks (\$600 million) in East Germany in the next three years.

The announcement by the company represents the biggest single investment programme since East Germany shed its communist government and began moving to a free market. (AP)

Credit Lyonnais: The French state-owned Credit Lyonnais said Friday it would make available one billion francs (\$175 million) in credits to French companies that invest in Eastern Europe.

The move was welcomed by French Finance Minister Pierre Bergey, who used the occasion of the announcement to criticise the French banking establishment for what he called its timidity in investing in Eastern Europe. (UPI)

1990 difficult year: Tougher international competition and slower demand for new cars mean Fiat's run of record annual profit growth is likely to end in 1990, company chairman Giovanni Agnelli said on Friday.

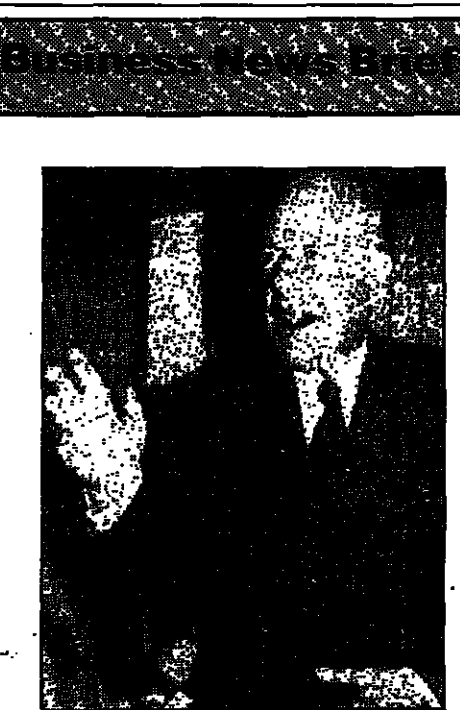
The veteran chief of Italy's largest private company gave no forecast for profits this year. But he told shareholders they could not expect last year's nine per cent rise to 3.31 trillion lire (\$2.75 billion) to be repeated. (Reuters)

Bolero in ads: A French insurance firm has paid a million francs (\$175,000) to use composer Maurice Ravel's haunting melody "Bolero" for two years in their television advertisements.

Assurances Generales de France, one of France's largest insurance brokers, said on Friday Bolero was chosen because copyright statistics showed it to be the world's most-frequently played musical work. (Reuters)

Centrust Bank sold: Centrust Bank was sold Friday to Great Western Bank of California, four months after federal regulators took over the insolvent thrift and ousted its chairman and allegations he used the institution as his personal "piggy bank."

Great Western's bid for the Miami-based Centrust bested offers from 15 other institutions made to the Resolution Trust Corp., which took over the thrift in February from its lavish-spending chairman, David Paul. (UPI)



Stepping down finally

Gustave Leven, 76, chairman of the mineral water company Pernier steps down from his post after 42 years at the helm. Leven whose father founded the famous sparkling water business in the south of France gives way to Jacques Vincent, Pernier's 67-year-old vice-chairman. (Reuters wirephoto)

Parental leave

Bush vetoes bill

WASHINGTON, June 30. (Reuters): President George Bush yesterday vetoed legislation requiring businesses to grant workers unpaid leave for up to three months a year to care for ill family members or a new child.

"I want to emphasise my belief that time off for a child's birth or adoption or for family illness is an important benefit for employers to offer employees. I strongly object, however, to the federal government mandating leave policies," Bush said in a letter to the House of Representatives.

Bush said the legislation, which would require businesses with 50 or more workers to grant extensive leave, would undermine the economy with rigid rules.

The veto, which can be overridden by a two-thirds vote of both the House and Senate, is the 13th of Bush's presidency.

French air controllers: French air traffic controllers, demanding better pay and conditions, will go on strike next Tuesday, Wednes-

day and Thursday, affecting flights in French airspace, the national airline Air France said on Friday.

The company said all of its long-range flights scheduled for the first day of the strike would go ahead and it hoped to operate about 40 per cent of its scheduled medium-range flights. (Reuters)

Pay deal: Air traffic controllers at Brussels airport called off strike early on Saturday after reaching a pay deal with the Belgian government.

A spokesman for the controllers, who began their stoppage on Thursday in support of a 30 per cent pay rise, said they would go back to work immediately. (Reuters)

Brazil builds new plane: Brazil's state-run aviation company, Embraer, has completed construction of a prototype of the CBA-123 turboprop passenger plane, the firm announced.

The plane's two US-built Garrett Corp. engines face the tail of the aircraft instead of the nose.

Embraer says the new design will eliminate torque and noise in the 19-person passenger cabin. It says the prototype will be subject to 200 hours of testing in Brazil and the United States. (UPI)

Term extended: The Gatt trade forum on Friday extended the appointment of its Swiss director-general, Arthur Dunkel, until the end of 1992 to allow him to implement decisions from current world trade negotiations.

The General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) decided on the extension "ensure implementation of the Uruguay round results, particularly on the institutional side," Gatt spokesman David Woods told a weekly news briefing. (Reuters)

New text scheme: The Nicaraguan government, in keeping with its process of Westernising the economy, announced Friday an overhauled tax system that government officials said is intended to boost production, stem inflation and prevent too wide a split in the distribution of wealth.

The system, the parts of which are scheduled to take effect next week, calls for a five-tier progressive income tax with a ceiling of 38.5 per cent on the country's wealthy individuals and businesses and zero per cent on the poor. (UPI)

Honduran strike: About 2,000 workers at the nation's only oil refinery joined banana workers in a strike Friday aimed at pressuring a US company, Chiquita, into paying higher wages.

The Texaco refinery is also a US business. Tens of thousands of other workers in other industries were also threatening to join the walkout, which could cripple this nation of 4.8 million people. (AP)

New general manager

Abu Nawas Co. welcomes

IN its recent inauguration, the Abu Nawas Company - Tunis, an affiliate of Kuwait Hotels Company, has welcomed its newly appointed general manager John Abu Nohra. Abu Nohra has a wide experience in international hotel management and has worked in many first class hotels in Kuwait for a long period.

Abu Nawas Hotels - Tunis, is situated in the centre of the Tunisian capital, close to the

Parliament House and the commercial centres. It is an 18-storey hotel comprising 282 double bedrooms, 30 luxurious suites and a VIP wing. All rooms are air conditioned and furnished luxuriously. The hotel comprises also many restaurants of Arabic and international styles.

Finally, Abu Nawas Company - Tunis, manages 12 hotels in Tunis and one hotel in Sidi Fraji in Algiers.

Award for Pullman

THE Sasso Pullman Al Baha received from His Royal Highness, Prince Faisal Bin Mohamed Bin Saud Bin Abdulaziz, vice-governor of the Al Baha region, an award of recognition for its contribution to the tourism and hotel industry in general and for promoting Al Baha region in particular. Mr. Hisham Goula, the general manager, personally received the award during a royal ceremony at the hotel's premises on June 12, 1990 attended by government officials and well-known personalities of Al Baha. This award is another first for the Sasso Pullman Al Baha.

Washington-Tokyo historic trade agreement major step toward easing tensions

TOKYO, June 30. (AP): A historic agreement on broad economic reforms in the United States and Japan was welcomed yesterday as a major first step on the long path toward easing trade tensions.

Expectations of higher interest rates linked to the structural trade agreement, however, dealt a blow to the US dollar and to Tokyo stock prices yesterday, analysts said.

Japanese and American trade officials promised drastic changes in both countries after four days of negotiations that ended late Thursday. The final report on the talks, called the Structural

Impediments Initiative, ended a series of talks on policy changes aimed at shrinking Japan's \$49 billion trade surplus with the United States.

Officials acknowledged that the report appeared to be a mutual meddling by each country in the other's economy, but they stressed that the success of the talks indicated that the approach was constructive.

The agreement could serve as an example in approaching trade and other disputes among other countries, Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe said yesterday.

"I think it's going to be accepted that we can do these sorts of things globally," he said. "No economies are completely isolated."

"In this age of mutual economic dependence, we hope that the SII talks will serve as a new international model for economic administration... as nations increasingly bond together to form common markets, the need for such a model grows," the mass-circulation Yomiuri Shimbun said in an editorial.

"We are now in an economic era without national borders," said the Asahi Shimbun. "Sovereignty is

no longer that it used to be for any nation. We feel inclined to accept as a product of such a new era the SII talks."

"The long and difficult process of the talks has clearly shown that these two Pacific trading partners are entering a new phase of their mutual relationship," said the English-language Japan Times.

But it warned that the "real SII talks may have just started... the two nations will probably... need to carry out even more drastic structural harmonisation."

Handwritten signature or note in Arabic script.

Sultans of swing

Rocking around the world

Dire Straits can't keep off the road

By Judy Byrne

TAKE off the trademark sweatband and guitarist Mark Knopfler can walk down the street unrecognised by any of the fans who put his music into the record books.

He knows he can. The former leader of supergroup Dire Straits, favourite of Princess Diana and the record-buying public alike, passes unnoticed all the time.

Now Mark is going to delight the Princess and the fans who made Dire Straits' Brothers in Arms album the best-selling LP ever released in the UK.

He has announced that Dire Straits is forming up again and going on the road next year. But 1991 will not be a re-run of their last tour in 1986.

Says Mark: "The ridiculous scale of things during the last tour bothered me a lot. All that best band in the world stuff."

"But I would keep running into people who were so disappointed and said the band was out of action. You forget what it means to people, to your managers, to the road crew."

And he adds: "I've missed it. After ten or 12 years it becomes part of what you are. Touring with the band is probably what I do best, really. I certainly get the most out of it."

"I love being centre-pin of all that activity."

But Knopfler, who has become a father in the meantime, does not intend to reproduce the scale of 1986's relentless megatour of 117 cities in 23 countries with 230-odd shows to audiences totalling 2,500,000 including the Prince and Princess of Wales.

This time it will be fewer shows but no bigger audiences.

"We are all dads now and I've got to think about that," says Mark.

Last time out, Dire Straits crossed three continents with an entourage of 11 trucks, filled with 52 tonnes of hi-tech light and sound equipment. There was also a small army of roadies and stage crew in tow.

American guitarist Jack Scannio who was then a member of the band said: "I have never been so physically and mentally exhausted, but we loved it. It was an incredible experience."

"But it was a bit like being trapped in an elevator. Every time we felt the strain but Mark suffered most. That's the price you pay for leading one of the world's biggest bands."

Mark admitted he was exhausted by the tour. He was forced to cut all communications with the media, so he could save his precious energy for his performances.

As the world's press clamoured at his door, he retreated into his luxury hotel announcing "The shop is shut."

The four-man group has always evolved around Mark and bass player John Illsley who formed Dire Straits together in 1977. But the other two band members have changed from time to time, and once included Mark's younger brother, David. Most recently, they have been



Dire Straits are back on the road after a four year absence.

and Hal Linn.

As the turnover has pushed people he says: "You can't be a dictator. You're a wimp."

Mark said he was not a stranger to cut all communications with the media, so he could save his precious energy for his performances.

As the world's press clamoured at his door, he retreated into his luxury hotel announcing "The shop is shut."

The four-man group has always evolved around Mark and bass player John Illsley who formed Dire Straits together in 1977. But the other two band members have changed from time to time, and once included Mark's younger brother, David. Most recently, they have been

direction.

Mark describes it. "I was going to produce an album for a couple of old friends of mine from Leeds, Steve Phillips and Brendan Croker. It soon got to the point where we were all singing songs in and we became a sort of group."

Guy Fletcher, who has been a member of Dire Straits since Brother in Arms was released back in 1985, began sitting in. Mark's manager, Ed Bicknell, joined them on drums.

Adds Mark: "We found we were having so much fun playing in this little studio in Notting Hill that we all wanted to go out on the road and do some shows."

The group called itself the Notting Hillbillies, released an album called Missing Presumed Having A Good Time

and set out on a low-key six-week UK tour that opened at the Tunbridge Wells Assembly Rooms.

Even this country blues-style antidote to the fast life—the sort of sound Knopfler says he was listening to himself when he was 18—did rather better than expected.

Mark said: "Our biggest hope was that we might sell something like 500,000 copies of our LP over a few years." Instead, the first million had been sold by the opening night of the tour.

We are doing this because we love it—not to make money," he said.

That is a luxury he would not have dreamed possible just over a decade ago, when Mark and John were in dire financial straits. They were trying to

scrape together £8 a week for the council flat they shared, plus the cost of the odd meal, while concentrating on writing songs and making music.

English literature graduate Mark had given up his job as a trainee journalist on the Yorkshire Post and John had quit his day job with a timber company.

Mark, who was born in Glasgow and brought up in Newcastle, is the son of a Jewish-Hungarian immigrant who tried to teach him piano and violin. But playing by ear came so easily to Mark that he never did put in the effort needed to learn the notation.

All he ever wanted was to be in a band. As a child, he used to draw pictures of bands. In woodwork, he made a guitar so he could have the pleasure of holding it. And after years of pleading, he was given a £15 guitar for his 15th birthday.

He and John finally scraped together the cost of a low budget demonstration tape. A disc jockey was so impressed he used the tape on his show. Dire Straits never looked back.

But the band members have still managed to go their separate ways on occasion.

John, who has made a solo album, Glass, claims Dire Straits is like a good marriage. He says: "No matter whatever happens, Mark and I will still be mates. We complement each other."

"It is like a good marriage in the sense that he lets me get on with what I want and I let him get on with what he does. People only break up when they don't want to play together any more."

"It is really loose relationship."

Mark met and fell in love with his wife, Lourdes, in an American recording studio. They married seven years ago with plans for a large family. But they found they had fertility problems.

Test tube technology proved to be the answer to their dreams. As soon as Princess Diana heard that Lourdes was pregnant with twins Ben and Joseph, she had a bunch of roses delivered with her congratulations to their home.

Forty-year-old Mark's mother, Louise, says: "Lourdes was named after the French town where miracles happen. And now she has produced two little miracles of her own."

Mark, who had been secretly working to help raise funds for the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children in London and for other children's charities even before he became a father, will not be taking the two-year-old twins on tour.

He says: "I don't think children welcome being uprooted all the time. I don't believe in professional parents—the ones you see pictures of in newspapers dragging tired, jetlagged children around the world like some wagon train."

John Illsley, who has an eight-year-old son, James, from his first marriage and a daughter, Jessica, aged two, with his girlfriend Tracy Wallace, has also devoted his spare time to helping children.

Travel

Treasured landscapes

By Marc Kemmis

BRITAIN makes great efforts to treasure and protect its countryside, as it does its castles, cathedrals and stately homes. The variety, quantity and quality of scenery which can be enjoyed in such a small country often surprises visitors who manage to pull themselves away from the man-made charms of such cities as London, Edinburgh, Bath or York.

This year, visitors seeking rural tranquillity or scenic grandeur can get advance help in planning their trip by obtaining "Britain's Treasured Landscapes". This attractive and informative new colour booklet, published jointly by the British Tourist Authority and the Countryside Commission, is available free from BTA overseas offices.

Printed—appropriately in these environmentally-conscious days—on re-cycled paper, it has been produced in five language versions: English, French, German, Italian and Spanish. The 48-page publication gives details of the 11 national parks covering almost one-tenth of the land in England and Wales—plus Scotland's many national scenic areas.

As well as maps, pictures and information on each one, "Britain's Treasured Landscapes" contains advice on travel and accommodation, and the Countryside Commission's country code. This applies not only to the protected areas in the book but to behaviour in the countryside in general, and includes reminders on fastening gates, keeping to the public footpaths across farmland, litter, protecting wildlife and plants, and not making unnecessary noise.

The first four British national parks came into being—to protect the land, and to preserve the rural life within them—in 1951: the Peak District in central England; the Lake District in the north-west; Snowdonia in North Wales; and Dartmoor in the south-west. Concern for landscape conservation had gradually grown through the 19th century, influenced by the Romantic poets and painters. The most famous of the poets, William Wordsworth, wrote in his "Guide to the Lakes": "... a sort of national property, in which every man has a right and interest who has an eye to perceive and a heart to enjoy."

The realisation that these precious parts of the national heritage needed vigilant protection, in times of increasing leisure and mobility, ensured that the other national parks, each with a distinctive character, followed during the 1950s.

They are the Pembrokeshire Coast of south-west Wales; the North York Moors, and the Yorkshire Dales; Exmoor (also known to Wordsworth, and his fellow-poet Coleridge); Northumberland, where the Pennine Hills meet the Scottish border; and the



Brecon Beacons in Wales. The latest addition to the list came in the 1980s—the Broadland Norfolk, only lowland and wetland member of the national parks family.

The "treasured landscapes" are not vast tracts of unpopulated wilderness reserves for the visitors' pleasure, preserved in some kind of time-warped. They are lived-in places, where much of the land is owned and worked: You will find farmers and their livestock, craftsmen, villages and small towns, museums and art galleries, stately homes—even some quaint old steam railways. There is also accommodation—from youth hostels to elegant country house hotels, from ancient inns to bed-and-breakfast in cosy farms and cottages—and some fine restaurants.

There is also plenty to do, as well as marvelling at the scenery as you walk, ride, cycle or drive through it: Sailing, fishing, climbing, painting, caving, canoeing, pony-trekking and boat trips.

The Scots pride themselves on doing many things differently from the folk down south, so it is not surprising that this less densely populated country does not have National Scenic Areas, containing much of the best and most characteristic landscapes, and not only in the majestic Highlands. The 40 in the booklet range from the dramatic Cullin mountains on the Isle of Skye, and Ben Nevis and three nearby wild glens, to Loch Lomond only 18 miles from Glasgow, and the Eildon Hills in the Border Country south of Edinburgh, a favourite of the novelist Sir Walter Scott who lived at nearby Abbotsford.

"Britain's Treasured Landscapes" will whet the appetites of many discerning travellers, and encourage them to explore for themselves. They will find that—though some of the areas get a large number of visitors on summer weekends—you can really "get away from it all," and that those landscapes are truly worth treasuring.

'Sick building' syndrome widespread

American firm says, cure exists

By Ruth Youngblood

SINGAPORE, (UPI)—Many employees working in the heart of Southeast Asia's high-tech Mecca have uncomplainingly endured headaches, sore eyes and coughs, unaware they may be victims of the "sick building syndrome."

Listless and irritable by the time they leave, it has occurred to the sufferers that the dazzling edifices needed an examination, not themselves.

Scientists from Healthy Building International Inc. are to have examined and set out solutions for businesses, banks, universities and government institutions in the United States, Europe, Canada and Australia, are bringing their expertise to the developing world.

"The human and economic costs of sick buildings can be enormous considering the potential effects on health and worker productivity," said Gray Robertson, bacteriologist and president of the company he co-founded in 1981. "The problem is curable."

cleanup and prevention. "I'm concentrating on the health-conscious first," he said. "The second group is the immune to the disease."

His prescriptions have been applied in Hong Kong, where the Prince of Wales and his help was sought by Singapore's Ministry of Health.

The government's "clean and green" 1981 survey of 500 central business buildings found a far from ideal picture.

Those queried felt they were lacking in ventilation, had stuffy or stale air, and suffered from dry throats and watery eyes. Although 90 per cent said the air was clean, 50 per cent said the air was stuffy or stale. In Singapore as a base for his operation, Robertson has been working with property

developers, architects, engineers and managers indicated they were anxious to rectify conditions reducing productivity and promoting absenteeism.

In the United States alone, Robertson said as many as half the office buildings, hospitals, government complexes and other major structures may be suffering from the sick building syndrome.

BHI has undertaken special projects at the US Department of Health and Human Services, the Social Security Administration, the Supreme Court, the Federal Reserve Bank and the General Services Administration, which manages 7,000 buildings.

Many buildings contain dangerous dusts, chemicals and micro-organisms because the air-conditioning and ventilation systems are improperly operated or poorly maintained, he said.

Recalling the first fatal outbreak of Legionnaires' Disease in 1976 was traced to bacteria disseminated by an air-conditioning system in a Philadel-

phia hotel, Robertson said, "Lesser outbreaks of cold or flu-like illnesses often occur, but the source is rarely identified. In many cases, it is the building itself." Countries with hot climates all year are particularly vulnerable, Robertson said, with air-conditioning systems the perfect incubators for bacteria and fungi thriving in dirt and water and then spreading throughout the system.

"Often the problem is due to shortsighted policies to save money, such as the closing of outdoor air vents to save energy, forcing occupants to breathe recycled indoor air," Robertson said.

"We are not saying that air-conditioning is bad," he said. "If you operate the system properly and you use good filters, then it is ideal."

Citing the example of a Washington, D.C. business where it cost only \$3 to fix a mechanical fault responsible for the release of ozone on the top floor that left all the executives sick, Robertson said, "Remedies can run from a

few dollars to thousands. Whatever we recommend is always cost effective."

Robertson said it was the initial outbreak of Legionnaires' Disease in which 29 delegates to an American Legion Convention died that prompted him to quit his job as head of the chemicals division of a major company nearby to start his own.

"I couldn't get it out of my mind," Robertson said. "It took seven months for authorities to trace the cause of those deaths down to a relatively common bacteria."

After discussing the situation with biochemists, microbiologists and other specialists, Robertson realised "No single group was dealing solely with the problem of sick buildings."

Now employing 50 consultants with offices in Boston, Toronto, Sydney and Madrid, Robertson said, "We don't view ourselves as a Swat team or Ghostbusters to call in only after a tragedy has occurred. We can make the recommendations that will prevent one from happening."

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: I learned from a television show that ovarian cancer can be detected by using two tests, a sonogram and a CA 125 blood test. I called my gynaecologist and he said I could have the two tests if I had a pelvic examination first. Because I had my uterus removed due to a class III test result, I'm somewhat cautious about other, pre-cancerous cells developing. Since ovarian cancer is so dangerous and often a killer, shouldn't these tests be done on a routine basis like the PAP test?

ANSWER: You're right about the seriousness of ovarian cancer. About 18,500 cases are seen each year, and some 11,000 or more women will die of this disease. In fact ovarian cancers are responsible for 6 per cent of all cancer deaths in women. That means it deserves some attention. Unfortunately, neither the CA 125 blood test nor the sonogram are efficient screening tests. The PAP smear is relatively inexpensive, can be performed in the physician's office, is highly reliable, and can detect the presence of abnormal cells before they actually become cancerous.

By comparison, both the CA 125 blood test and the sonogram are relatively expensive and are not specific for ovarian cancer. Sonograms just produce pictures of a mass or new growth, using reflected sound waves, without specific diagnosis, and the CA 125 is a non-specific marker that can also be elevated in conditions such as cirrhosis of the liver. Neither test can detect the pre-cancerous state, but are useful in helping to make a diagnosis of a cancer already present, and used after therapy to gauge the effectiveness of treatments.

Thus, the first line of defence for this condition, as for so many others, remains the careful and attentive physical examination performed by your physician. When this evaluation yields indications that more investigation is necessary, the other tests can be ordered and interpreted. As to your worries about the relationship between your previous PAP smear

Careful examination is first step in cancer defence

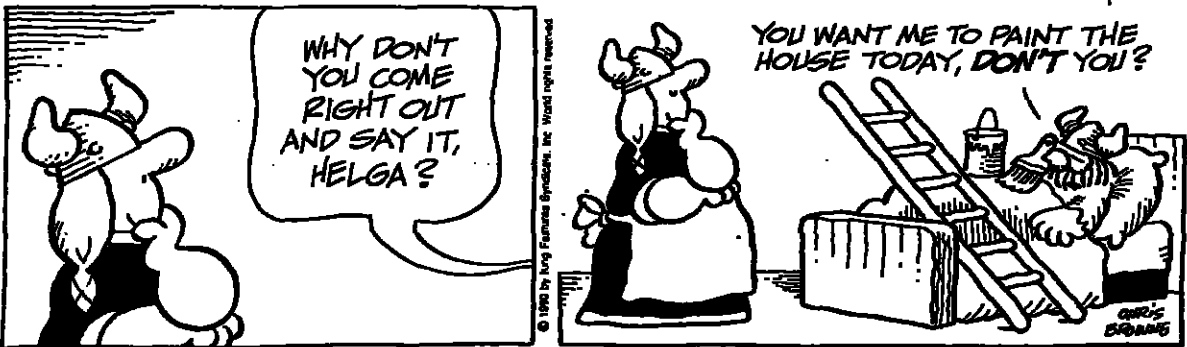
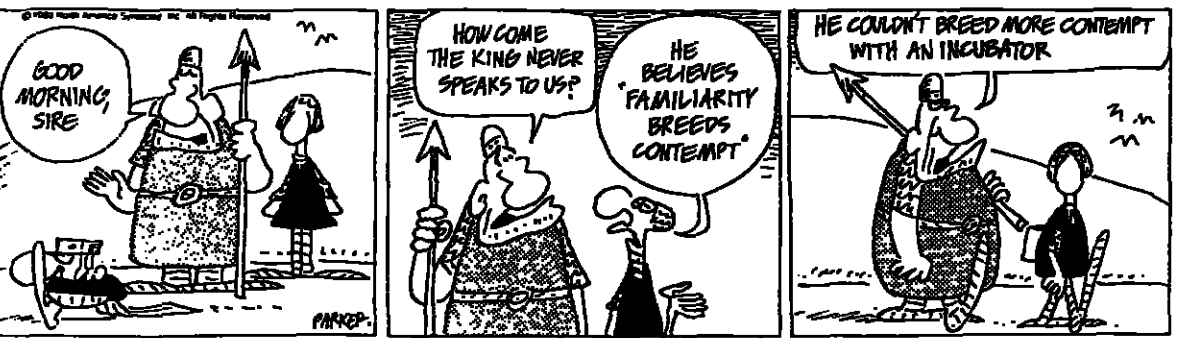
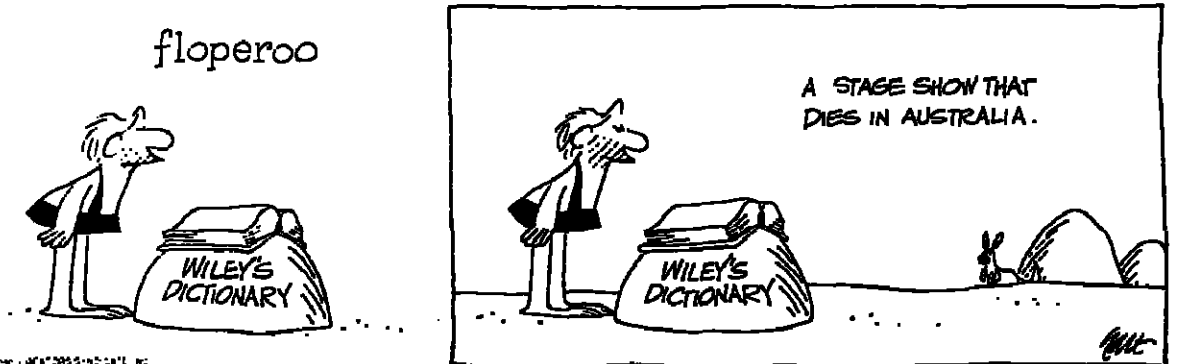
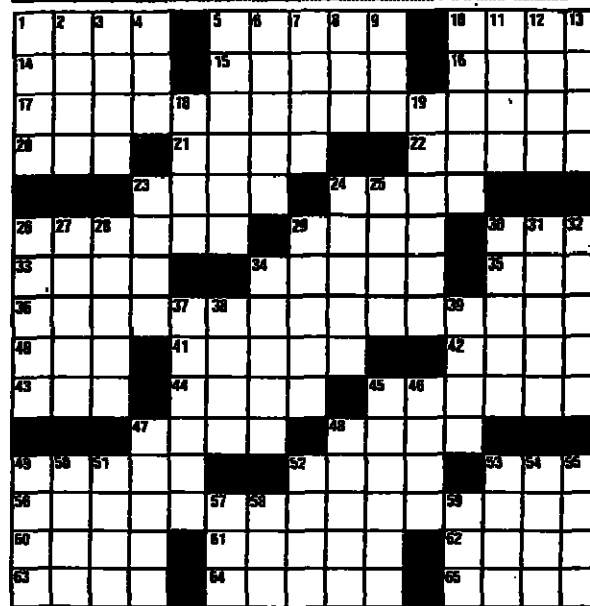
findings and this cancer, there seems little cause for concern, since one condition is not a risk factor for the other. Incidentally, both child birth and the use of oral contraceptives seems to lower the chance of ovarian cancer. My advice to you is to follow the course of action your physician has outlined for you, for it certainly follows current knowledge about ovarian cancer.

GREAT NEWS: Many weeks ago, I presented a letter from a 31-year-old woman who was seeking help in fighting a rare type of cancer. Many, many of you took the time to write, some with words of encouragement and prayer, others with suggestions and treatments you had heard of, in an outpouring of concern and love. I forwarded all this material to her along with some advice received from my colleagues. For many weeks there was no response, and I feared the worse.

However, a letter finally arrived that told of the courageous battle that had been fought. After radiation treatments and chemotherapy, and after 40 treatments, the "tumour melted away like butter" with no visible trace. Surgery followed, and now there is hope of a cure. With the understanding that each day must be lived to the fullest, and in the knowledge of the power of her faith, this young woman, referred to as "a miracle patient" by her doctor, intends to help others by becoming a volunteer for the American Cancer Society.

My thanks to all of you, for the prayers and help offered, which certainly played a part in this incredible story.

Dr Allan Bruckheim welcomes questions from readers. Although he cannot respond to each one individually, he will answer those of general interest in his column. Write to Dr Bruckheim in care of this newspaper, P.O. Box 119, Orlando, Fla. 32802-0119.

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake**HAGAR THE HORRIBLE** — By Dik Browne**AGATHA CRUMM** — By Bill Griffith**BEETLE BAILEY** — By Mort Walker**THE WIZARD OF ID** — By Brant Parker & Chip Hart**ANDY CAPP****B.C.** — By Johnny Hart**HE-MAN** — By G. Forton & J. Shull**TODAY'S CROSSWORD**

ACROSS

1 Marionette maker
5 "The Wealth of Nations" economist
10 Mallorca, for one
14 Composer of 44 Across
15 Shavian actress Ellen
16 Tense
17 American author meets Irish author
20 Actor McKern
21 Lady Chaplin
22 Comic Ole
23 18th cen. English elegist
24 Steinbeck character
26 Poet Rod
29 Homer's "rosy-fingered"
30 TV's Sajak
33 King of comedy
34 "The —," by 12 Down
35 Botanist Gray
36 Hollywood star meets Las Vegas star
40 Possess
41 Farber and Millay
42 "The Last Days of Pompeii" heroine
43 TLC dispensers
44 "— She Sweet?"
45 "Love Me or Hate Me" star
47 Beatrice d'—
48 "Laughing Cavalier" painter

DOWN

49 Conductor
50 Golfer
52 Dada founder
56 Film actress meets film actress
60 Cartoonist Peter
61 Charteris hero, with "The"
62 Java's neighbor
63 St. Nick's season
64 Halley's —
65 Scrooge, to friends
11 States
12 Playwright-congresswoman
13 Solar disc
18 Of old
19 Mrs. Paul Newman
23 Craig Steven's role
24 Mystery writer P.D. —
25 Author
26 Shaw's "Barbara"
27 Circus performer
28 Madeline and Gus
29 Oscar-winning actor, 1939
30 "Cry, the Beloved Country" author
31 In harmony
32 Chief Justice in Dred Scott decision
34 Crossword puzzle pioneer
37 Equivocate, with "out"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

PARIS SIT HOPE
AGANA AERO ARIA
CHILLOSLAY TENT
EASE HEFTINESS
SETSA QENO
STRAP GRASPS
FLU LILLI BOUT
LOSSOFINNOCENCE
OLEO TOLE GEM
GASBAG OWING
ROAN VENUS
STIMULATE OPIA
WARD RETIREMENT
ORAL DUET CONGO
NAME STD UNDER

COREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Void ♠K164 ♠AKJ97 ♠QJ93
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
? What do you bid now?

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Void ♠K164 ♠AKJ97 ♠QJ93
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass
? What action do you take?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AJ32 ♠Void ♠KJ73 ♠AKQ32
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
? What do you bid now?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AJ32 ♠Void ♠KJ73 ♠AKQ32
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
? What do you respond?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AK5 ♠K9876 ♠Q1065 ♠5
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
? What do you bid now?
Look for answers on Monday.

**YOUR STARS**

Aries (March 21 - April 19)
You will be better able to persuade others, but do not expect to have everything your own way. Take more interest in what interests your partner. Make sure you do not do anything injurious to your health. Be fair.

Cancer (June 21 - July 20)
You are more likely to make an error so be on the lookout for it. Do not be in too much of a hurry, but do not wait for others to make the first move. A friendly conversation is much better than getting into an argument. Be sincere.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)
You will be tempted to spend more than you can really afford—don't. You would be wrong to engage in nostalgia—even if some things were better in the past. You must live in the present. A little more optimism is in order. Be sensible.

Capricorn (Dec. 21 - Jan. 19)
Save by all means, but not by cutting down on repairs and maintenance. Do not allow yourself to be discouraged by the fact that is taking longer to learn a skill than you had thought. Have a little more faith in yourself. Be generous.

Taurus (April 21 - May 20)
You will have what at first seems like a good idea but on reflection will turn out not to be. Do not expect others to have your best interests in mind at all times. Avoid exhausting yourself but do not be lazy either. Be moderate.

Leo (July 21 - Aug. 23)
You should try to take your mind off work for the day. Make sure you are on time, do not keep others waiting. You should try to think a little more positively but that does not mean to ignore the difficulties. Be pleasant.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 22)
Something you had hoped for will not happen but it will turn out to have been for the best. Listen to advice but do not permit others to tell you what to do. Do make sure you stay within safe and legal limits. Be trustworthy.

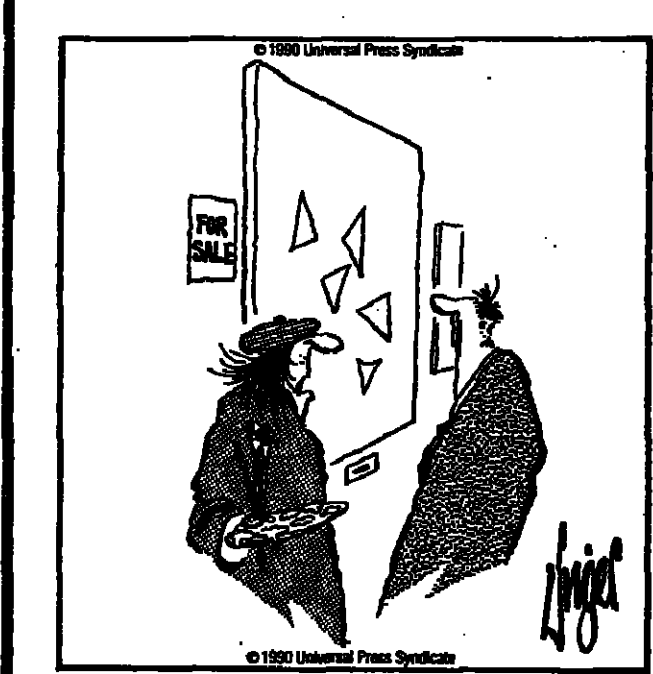
Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 19)
A little time spent tidying up is far from wasted. Ensure that your diet contains sufficient vitamins and not too much sugar. Attend to what has to be done, not just to what you like doing. Be frank.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)
An offer or proposal should be considered most carefully, it is not all it seems to be. Your lucky numbers are 12 and 26. You should try not to take everything quite so seriously. However, there is no room for excessive frivolity either. Be amenable.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
Not everything is to your liking, but by making a few concessions you will be able to cope with. Make sure you do not tell others exactly what you think of them, they will not like it if you do. Avoid eating too many sweet things. Be a little more patient.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
One of your problems has a quite easy solution, only you are looking in the wrong place for it. Not everything is as you would wish it to be, but you would do well to accept things as they are. Restrict your expenditure. Be reliable.

Pisces (Feb. 20 - March 20)
A friend will be grateful to you for your advice and solace. Do not neglect a hobby, but do not allow it to take up too much time either. Do not resist change, but nor should you make changes just for the sake of novelty. Be tactful.



SNIPPETS

Philippines in Kuwait

Basic Computer

Eden A. Loyola, Vicky D. Lucero, Lea Q. Castillo, Helene C. Quisoa, Rosalina P. Herrera, Cynthia B. Andaway, Concepcion G. Orpilla, Maridel M. Fabroa, Zoraida A. Radoc, Rosmary P. Garcia, Madolyn Usang, Jumana D. El Jechi, Esmeralda M. Jeleny Fortalez, Jocelyn Mission, Nomi S. Roba, Retita, Concepcion A. Nisperos, Leonora Tomacruz, Odubia I. De Los Angeles, Annabelle Lawagan, Elizabeth Romas, Edeza Reyes, Eloisa De Guzman, Esther O. Salvador, Florence D. Valeros, Evangelina S. Inserto, Angelita B. Maranan, Sittie Suzaida S. Pistang, Virginia Ramos, Estrellita C. Dawis, Leoncia A. Ponce, Luis G. Boco, Isidoro B. Malijan, Pacia E. Carlos, Felicianja J. Fajardo, Rose Luna, Helen Gamboa, Teresita Hynson, Rebecca Busa, Rizza Marie Espedilla, Andrea Ramos, Baby M. Alegre, Ma Susan C. Dadua, Nelda L. Mamaid, Joanita Carvalho, Elsa T. Vargas, Lourdes E. Recio, Ma Teresita L. San Diego, Remedios C. Escalada, Elsa B. Caparon, Elisa F. Santos, Leonila P. Plog, Sumaya AI Mokhtar, Arlene M. Arenas, Marissa L. Agripa, Priscilla Badua, Marissa C. Villanueva, Brenda P. Poncejan, Wanie De Castro, Rosita B. Caballa, Angelita M. Boria, Belen G. Estrella, Ligaya Florentino, Magdalena Lopez, Marina Layao, Reynaldo R. Chavez, Nestor R. Efa, Umar Husain, Ahmed Thalji, Teofilo A. Palteng, Carlos L. Ision, Arnel M. Nuque, Arnulfo T. Navarro, Jaime S. Cainto, Joseph G. Vitoria, Paulino R. Clores, Eduardo C. Trugillo, Decoroso V. Domael, Ronald Felix C. Diaz, Anselmo Campos, Ricardo C. Cruz, Jr., Anacleto Amado, Michael Malapitjan, Jose S. Isidro, Eduardo B. Bolata, Trifon C. Abing, Nonato Angeles, Erwin Estorinos, Virgilio S. Bagano, Gregorio R. Caballita, Benjamin A. Tajan-Tajan, Thaddeus N. Guison, Neonilo C. Oroy, Harriet A. Bolante, Rodrigo A. Nabua, Wilfredo P. Cabalbal, Vicente V. Corpuz, Ricardo S. Cortes, Ariel P. Agustin, Luther U. Rama, Godofredo D. Tumangday, Rosario Dumacal, Nicanor A. Odejar, Genessius L. Rana, Rey Madato, Alfredo Miranda, Jimmy Santos, Arturo D. Tapia, Victor J. Mabana, Pablo D. Divinagracia, Delfin G. Yambot, Pedro Fruelda, Maximo V. Rocio, Jr., T.D. Soni, Ruben S. Espedilla, Renato Adonis, Mario P. Tanco-AN, Jun Arenas, Robin Eugene Espedilla, Felizardo B. Ruazol, Lorenzo Caballo, Samuel Aureliano, Emil Calsido, Jr., Gilbert E. Santiago, Floro Penteroste, Ike M. Abayato, Carlos Edilberto G. Alao, Ricardo D. Rivera, Benny Perez.

Playing one of the bar girls in the chorus, Monique has had to *don a bikini, much to her consternation.* "It was very difficult, at first, to wear those bikinis with 2,500 people in the audience watching you. But we're actors, though it took us a long time, we do what we have to do," she says eruditely. Same with the kissing scene. —BPR



Monique takes a breather from the hectic *Miss Saigon* pace in Manila — away from the London fog and cold

While reports say Ka Jimmy, a member of the 1986 Constitutional Commission, in the opinion of the courts, is an *estafador*, he is also a committed peasant leader, articulate anti-military bases militant and courageous gadfly whose provocative tactics have irritated conservatives and the establishment. (We marched together for a long time in the Parliament of the streets).

To borrow from a great libertarian, Justice Felix Frankfurter: "It is a fair summary of history to say that the safeguards of liberty have frequently been forged in

We can and must do better. We cannot administer the law with an evil eye and an uneven hand. We cannot agree with Anatole France's biting commentary: "The law, in its majestic equality, forbids the rich as well as the poor to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal bread."



We can and must do better. We cannot administer the law with an evil eye and an uneven hand. We cannot agree with Anatole France's biting commentary: "The law, in its majestic equality, forbids the rich as well as the poor to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal bread."

Is mental dishonesty being clever?

PRESIDENT Richard Nixon once said, "Only when you have been in depth, can you truly appreciate the height."

As Mrs Imelda Romualdez Marcos is on trial, one should contemplate on these words of wisdom. Sad as it seems, the loss of friends at moments like this is part of the immortality of men. To some people, being dishonest has new connotations, it is being clever.

At the height of power, Mrs Imelda Marcos is like a goddess from whose front, the many benefits, favours would flow. A lot of people would just be too happy to be identified with her for the blessings seem incomparable. Today, when the sailing is rough, one by one, they are no longer there.

One typical example of the lot is Ms Jeweller. At the height of the Marcos regime, she did not mind carrying a bag of Madam Marcos. As a matter of fact, she was a one woman cordon sanitaire of Ms Marcos. She was the unofficial protocol officer of Madam. She would bawl out those who would not follow her instruction. She was arrogant.

As a notorious jeweller, she would name drop the name of Mrs Marcos whenever she would smuggle her goods into the country. She would always use Ms Marcos to further her business. And she made her pile. From a vendor in Sta. Cruz to a jeweller in Forbes Park!

Today, where is she? Oh! she is still around. Only she is the cordon sanitaire of a powerful lady of the new regime. She seems to always get the right connection. Her smuggling activities are now reaching an all time high.

One story goes that one day, the powerful lady was operated at the Makati Medical Centre. Our Ms Jeweller visited her in her splendid regalia. The sick lady could not help but notice her pearl necklace. Unable to contain her admiration, the lady told Ms Jeweller how beautiful her pearl choker was. Without batting an eyelash, without second thoughts, she asked the maid to remove the lock and give it to the sick lady. She outdid herself. During the last regime, she would sell to Ms Marcos. Business must be that good, she can now afford to give jewels away.

Some months ago, some friends were prodding me to be friendly with Ms Jeweller. They told me some media practitioners were close to her as she was very generous. She should be. But I refused to have anything to do with her. Perhaps, one should remember that for every diamond she smuggles into the country, there are some 64 million of us Filipinos who will suffer.

Last year, Ms Jeweller gave a party in her house in Forbes Park. Her house, the construction of which started during the Marcos regime was finally finished. It is described as palatial, beautiful and done no less by Chito Antonio. It is so expensive that she had to charter a jet to bring in her Bacarat chandeliers and her crystals in time for the party.

Again, I declined the invitation of the honoree. After all, we have a saying in tagalog, "Aan-kin ang palacio kung ang nakatira ay kuago. Mas mabuti pa ang kubo, ang nakatira naman."



Imelda

ay tao."

Then we have another example of a so-called friend. She is Ms Mercenary. During the Marcos regime, she was a media practitioner. She was a reporter for one of the nation's newspapers. She sang all those "Praise Releases." She too, was a close person to Mrs Marcos. Just like

Ms Jeweller, everytime Ms Marcos was there, she would not be far behind. She even used her power of the pen to expand her horizon. She got fat and juicy contracts for her husband's business.

After the EDSA incident, for fear of her life, she spent with her entire family some months in

Hawaii. She should! Wasn't she among the many who would queue at the office of Minister Cendana for her envelope please exercise everytime a trip was made?

Today, Ms Mercenary sings a different tune. Where as before, it was "Dakil Sa Iyo," now it is Tie A Yellow Ribbon.

But her business is not just that. During the Marcos regime, she was retained as Public Relations of the Metro-Manila Commission. This activity was carried on until the Aquino government. She must have made her pile by now.

Then, we have Ms Legislator. Many years ago, when her husband was still struggling, she would hang around those close to the seat of power. Then, she would not qualify as Blue Lady. Nonetheless, she would hang around with the wives of Malacanang Boys. One day, Mrs Marcos finally noticed the potentials of her husband. Mrs Marcos gave him the break. He was sent abroad to study and then finally made president of a charitable organisation. But Ms Legislator was quite ambitious. She also wanted to have what her amags have. One day, she got disappointed she did not get her favour. So, the family shifted colours. Today, she gravitates with the cono group of the new establishment.

Perhaps, today, Mrs Marcos should read what Sophocles once wrote, "One must wait until evening to see how splendid the day has been." DK

Tycoons can be charming

TYCOONS — they are the ones who make our economy. Their whims and caprices can make or unmake a nation. They control the Philippines as well as the world business activities.

One business tycoon who is perhaps the most charming of them all is Hari Harela. He is Hong Kong's Tai Pan, who lives just like the nobility of his town. His home is a 40-bedroom palace in Kowloon, where his bedroom has for its ceiling strands of mikimoto pearls. He said some 40 boxes of pearls were used to line the room.

His home, on the affluent side has 40 rooms and attended by 40 domestic helpers. The garage has 3 Rolls Royce, 7 BMW's and 7 Mercedes Benzes.

Hari Harela owns real estate, a trading company and some hotels. His Holiday Inn Golden Mile is the favourite of many Filipinos. His other hotels are in Penang, Malaysia and the Holiday Inn in Bangkok.

Together with the Kodoori, they are names that are synonymous to Hong Kong.

In the Philippines, we also have tycoons like Antonio V. Martel, Jr. His interest involves some of the pioneering industries in the country. He was once involved in paper mills, then in steel mills. Today, he is full time with the commercial complexes. Harrison Plaza is his baby.

Martel is a perfect gentleman. His employees have all the respect for him. He is one of the best employers in town.

Another person in the Philippines who can be considered a tycoon is Fred J. Elizalde. He is the scion to the Elizalde family who once owned the Tanduay Distillery. They are rope manufacturers and tool makers as well.

Business interest for Freddie includes La Carlota Sugar Mills, the Pilar Sugar Mills and the DZRH.

Fred is now low-keyed businessman. Not really that sociable. Fred would rather stay home and pursue his hobby. He paints.

A devoted father to Tallasa, the first Asian liver transplantee, his interest in helping those similarly sick in the liver makes him active for their cause.

We should also include Alfredo Gloria among our tycoons. He was the pioneer in the Philippine search for petrodollar. His company Pennel was the leading transportation company in the Middle East. Today, Gloria runs another transportation company. And he has the right connections. Ambassador Domingo Lee, the ever faithful Chinese buyer of the Cojuangco family is his leading client.

Another business tycoon is Linda Salonga Pastoral. She is a University of the Philippines graduate. She was an honour student of her time, graduating cum laude, at the UP College of Business Administration.

A very active lady, he is involved in the organisation known as Zonta. Mrs Pastoral is behind the Ohrelle, Inc. a prime boutique in Metro Manila.

Banks' purchase of gold urged

SEN. Victor Ziga recommended that private commercial banks be allowed to purchase gold, especially from small-scale miners in the gold rush areas.

Ziga made the proposal after confirming reports that the government has failed to collect the necessary revenues from the lucrative gold market in such areas. He pointed out that the Central Bank has "miserably" failed to monitor the correct volume of gold coming out of these places.

"If the Central Bank does not even have an accurate data on the volume of gold produced all over the country, how can it hope to capture even a sizeable portion of the gold market?" he asked.

The senator pointed out that at present only the Central Bank is allowed to purchase gold in the country, but it does not have buying stations in the gold rush areas or even in the nearest municipalities. It only maintains branches in the big urban centres which are far from the actual gold-producing zones, he added.

"Thus, most, if not all of the small-scale miners are forced to sell to unlicensed traders who have set up shops near the gold source," Ziga said.

Under the present setup, the government is being deprived of a huge amount of revenue which otherwise would go to its coffers, he added.

It is reliably estimated, he said, that the amount of revenue losses of the government from its failure to participate in the lucrative gold market would be more than enough to fill the gap in the budgetary deficit.

"If the government is able to collect the revenues due from the gold production in the country, we may not only be able to pay our foreign debt which is eating up a big portion of our annual budget but we may even have enough for needed development projects," Ziga pointed out.

He said the best way for the government to be able to collect much needed revenues from gold production is to allow private banks to purchase gold, particularly that produced by small scale miners.

Fashion fashion

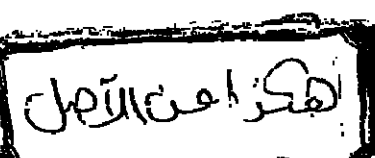


Head turners

Lady executives know what it takes. Their secret... Dressence! — bringing forth the strong feminine warmth and

balance to understated lines. The separates, given a lift by intelligent detailing, are right in or out of the office. Available

at Robinson's. Model Nol Cueto



MANILA: Education Secretary Isidro D. Carino said that if militant teachers push through their plan to stage a strike on the first day of classes, they will be dismissed.

"Iba na ang panahon ngayon. (The time is different now.) They have been told that it is illegal for them to go on strike and we are going to insist that they follow the law," Carino said, adding that he is doing his best to get the funds for the allowances due them.

He said that he has had several meetings with Sen. Edgardo J. Angara, chairman of the Senate committee on education, and Rep. Carlos Padilla, chairman of the House committee on education, on the additional benefits for all teachers.

"I am working for the best interests of the teachers and they should be patient and think of the welfare of students and not go to the streets again. So I have said it before and I am saying it again: If these teachers do not comply with the law, I will fire them and no amount of requests will make me change my mind regarding this decision," Carino stressed.

On the plan of student activists to boycott classes, Carino said that if they don't have permits to hold rallies, they would be charged.

The Senate education committee expressed hopes of averting a nation-wide strike by public school teachers by holding an urgent committee hearing.

Sen. Edgardo J. Angara said his committee has sent invitations to top officials of the Executive Department and heads of teachers organizations to attend the "make or break" committee hearing. Sen. Victor Ziga proposed that the school opening be moved to September in order to save the students from the perils and health hazards during the rainy season every year.

Ziga said the worst of the rainy and flood season is in June or July or even August and many parents, teachers and school authorities have expressed serious concern for their children's safety.

Moreover, he said, the releases of funds from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for the construction of schoolrooms have been delayed so the school children will be suffering from lack of classrooms.

SAN FERNANDO, La Union: Newly appointed Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom) chief Brig. Gen. Gumercindo Yap disclosed here an ongoing military revamp affecting top-level regional command posts of the Philippine Army (PA) and Philippine Constabulary (PC).

Initially affected is the PA brigade in Ilocos Norte and three provincial commands in the Cordillera Regional Command (Crecom).

Yap said the major shake-up was initiated on orders of the general headquarters. The purpose is to streamline the operations of regional commands in the field and, at the same time, replace those who failed to effectively perform their duties as heads of their respective units.

Affected by the revamp were:

Newly promoted Brig. Gen. George Moleta, chief of the PA 503rd brigade in Vintar, Ilocos Norte; Lt Romeo Acop, provincial commander of Benquet; Lt Col Florencio Fianza, provincial command of Kalinga-Apayao; and Maj. Conrado Peregrino, head of the regional special action force.

Col Roberto Manlongat replaced Moleta who was reassigned to the PA general headquarters. Fianza took over the post of Acop who was tentatively given the Bukidnon post.

Peregrino, on the other hand, was named as the new provincial commander of Kalinga-Apayao.

Meeting newsmen after briefing the senior staff of the Region I command here, Yap said that more heads will roll "if the officers won't catch up with the standard of performance demanded by our country now."

"I expect that there will be more who will be relieved," he said, adding that "the relief is really for the good of the regions."

MANILA: Lawyer-journalist Emiliano P. Jurado Jr has apologized to the Supreme Court which ordered him to explain the "obviously false statements" he attributed to the tribunal in his news article.

In an 11-page compliance to the high court's "show cause order," Jurado said he presents himself to the court as a journalist and not as a member of the legal profession.

Jurado was ordered to explain his "speculations and conjectures" contained in his May 27 news article entitled "Rebellion Complex Does Not Exist — SC."

Jurado said in his article that the Supreme Court had reached a decision on the case of Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile who questioned the filing of a complex crime of rebellion against him by government prosecutors.

The Supreme Court said that at the time the story was written, no decision had yet been rendered by the court on the case and that the tribunal "was still deliberating" on it.

Jurado said that while he "holds dear and sacred my membership in the bar, such membership is not an indispensable or even critical adjunct in the exercise of my occupation as a newspaperman."

He said he was surprised why the High Court "chose to regard me not as a journalist who is incidentally a member of the bar who is incidentally a journalist."

Jurado said that he stumbled upon the information that the Supreme Court deliberations clearly pointed to an overwhelming majority for upholding that rebellion cannot be complexed with common crimes in the course of his research for materials for his column.

Jurado is a regular columnist of the Manila Standard. He said that in line with his duties as a journalist, his function as a member of the press often casts him in an adversarial relationship with the powers of the state.

He told the court he did not write the May 27 article "with any intention to obstruct the administration of justice."

He said that while it is the duty of the Supreme Court to protect proceedings, it is also the duty of newspapers to ask questions, to pierce the veil of secrecy that surrounds public transactions in the interest of the people's right to know.

"It was written and published wholly in furtherance of a newspaper's mission to inform its readers of what it considered a development of the highest public interest," Jurado added.

BALAYAN, Batangas: Hundreds of newly graduated elementary pupils in the public schools here were denied enrolment in the local community high school due to lack of teachers and classrooms.

Students in the government-owned community high school are exempted from paying tuition fee.

Valeriano Castiller, head of the local community high school, said he regrets that not all applicants for the first year could be accommodated due to limited facilities of the government school.

Lawyer and former newspaperman Reynaldo B. Catelo, president of the Federation of Parent-Teachers Association in the Balayan elementary schools, sought the assistance of President Aquino in the solution of the problem, noting that more than 300 first-year students belonging to poor parents are affected.

He expressed the fears that the students who were denied enrolment in the public high school might pose a big social problem to the community.

MANILA: The Philippine Army (PA) revealed a new deployment system for its troops, calling for the recruitment and assignment of combat soldiers right in their regions.

Maj. Gen. Guillermo G. Flores, army chief, said the entire army command will undergo major "physical changes" in the next few months to put more muscle in the government's fight against communist insurgents.

Flores said the scheme will also lessen the load on the administration of troops in the field and give more attention to tactical manoeuvres on the battlefield.

Flores said the decentralisation of troop deployment is part of his policy of providing more resources for combat troops in the frontline.

The army chief said he ordered his staff officers to prepare the blueprint for the new recruitment scheme for implementation the soonest possible time.

The recruitment of soldiers will be "localised" which means that applicants for enlistment will be selected on a "region-wide basis," he said.

"This would be more practical because the troops would be more knowledgeable of the terrain of their areas of assignment," Flores said.

Another advantage of the scheme, he said, is giving the soldier peace of mind when he is out on operations.

Senator Tamano to visit Kuwait on July 14

SENATOR Mamintal Abdul Jabbar Tamano will be visiting Kuwait on July 14 to bring a special goodwill message from President Corason Aquino to HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah. Tamano will take time to meet the Filipino community in Kuwait so as to explore the possibility of Kuwaiti-Filipino business ventures in the Philippines. He will also convey the message that Kuwait has helped her Muslim brothers in the New Muslim-Minadanao Autonomous region particularly in economic ventures beneficial to both countries.

Tamano, President of the Council for Islamic Call of the Philippines, and senator-at-large (elected twice as a Senator in office), was the architect behind the recent Philippine recognition of the State of Palestine. The Senator also affirmed the Philippines' desire to bring peace to the Middle East.

He stated that Kuwait and other members of the GCC countries are a prosperous market for Filipino products (such as "halal" livestock); adding that the Philippines can become a Southeast Asian prime distributor of excellent quality products.

Tamano, a former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, is currently the Assistant Majority Floor leader in the House of Senate, Chairman-Committee on Ways and Means and the Commission on Appointments National Defence, Committee on Games Amusement, Labour, Employment, Human Resources Development and the Committee on National Cultural Communities.

Further, he is a member of the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and currencies, Education, Arts and Culture Finance, Foreign Relations, Government Corporations and Public Enterprises, National Resources and Ecology, Public Officers Accountability (Blue Ribbon), Public Works, Tourism and the Electoral Tribunal.



Senator Tamano

He also authored a book on the Real and Meaningful Autonomy for Muslim Minorities in the Philippines and previously served as a member of the Board of Regents of the Mindanao State University, the only State Institution of Higher Education serving as a "Welfare University" for the Muslim constituency — a sister university of the world famous Al Azhar University in Cairo, A.R.E.

Senator Tamano will be accompanied by Congressman Alawadri Bandon of Tawi-Tawi of the Muslim-Mindanao Autonomous Region and Atty and Faisal Hussin, legal advisor, an alumnus of a prestigious London University.

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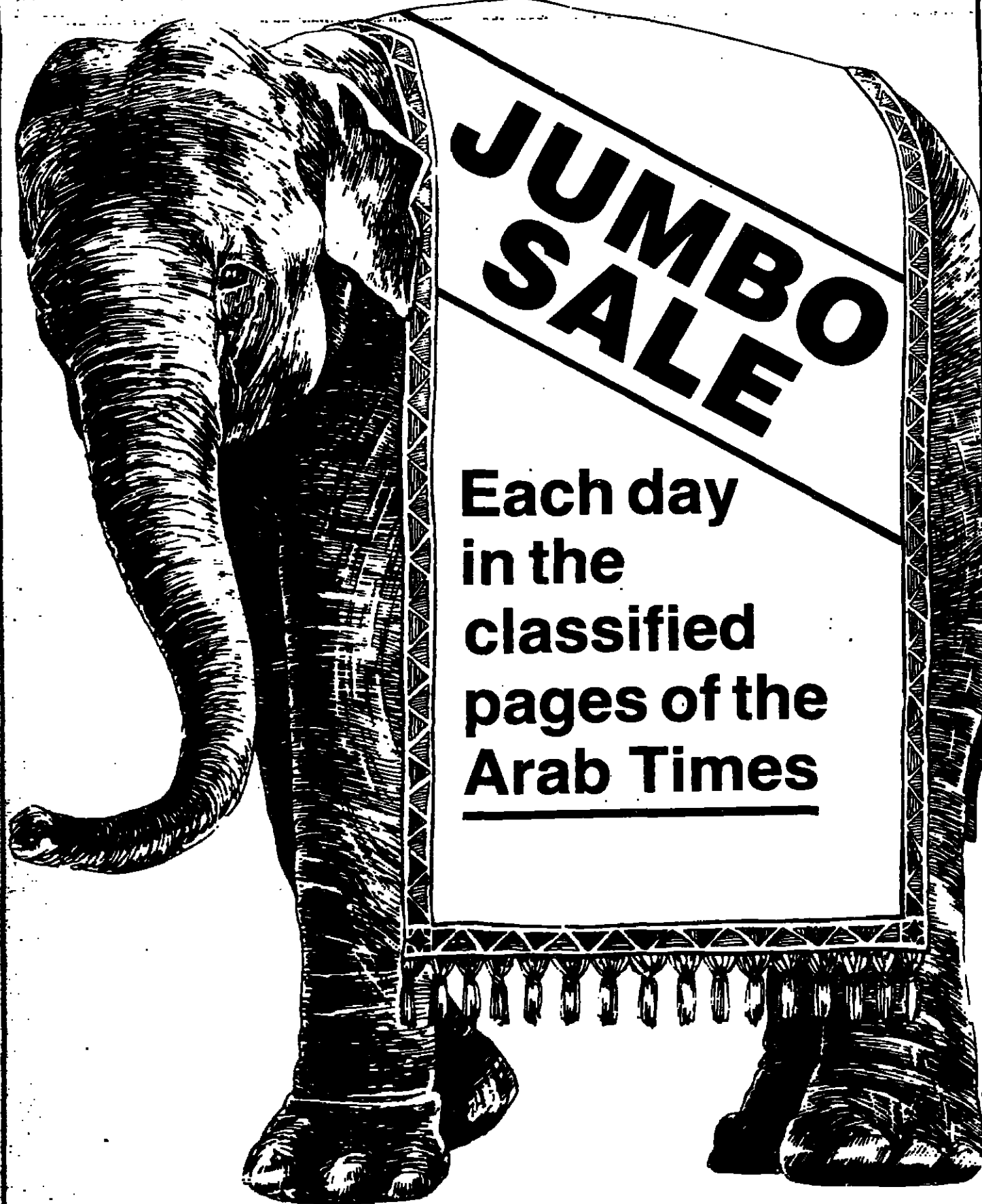
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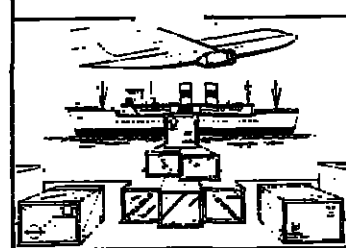
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England will reach semifinals: Beckenbauer

EBBA, Italy, June 30. (Reuter): Franz Beckenbauer reckons England will reach the World Cup semifinals but says Italy against West Germany would make a dream final.

Victory over Czechoslovakia in Milan tomorrow would carry West Germany to a semifinal against England or Cameroon, though Beckenbauer is making

no premature assumption of his team's progress.

"I expect England in the semifinals because Cameroon have four players who can't play because of (second) yellow cards," he said at the squad's base near Lake Como yesterday.

"A country like Cameroon can't counter-balance that, so I believe England will

reach the semifinals."

Beckenbauer said prospects for an Italy-West Germany final — a repeat of 1982 when Italy won in Spain — were quite good.

"If that came about we would have a dream final, but things have not got that far yet," he told a news conference.

Beckenbauer said his team would not

underestimate quarterfinal opponents Czechoslovakia.

"We have the motivation. We want to get to the semifinals. We played very well against the Netherlands, who are one of the strongest teams in the world," he said, looking back to last Sunday's 2-1 win over the European champions in the second round.

Cameroon gain England's respect

Both managers face problems

NAPLES, June 30. (Reuter): Cameroon must conjure up another spirited performance to make up for the loss of four suspended players in tomorrow's World Cup quarterfinal against England.

But England manager Bobby Robson, who has problems of his own with several key players injured, is treating the West Africans with respect.

"We shall have to play well. If we don't, they will knock us out," he said.

England are trying to reach the semifinals for the first time since they won the trophy on home soil in 1966 but have six players injured in addition to captain Bryan Robson who has flown home for treatment on an Achilles tendon.

Forwards Gary Lineker and John Barnes, defenders Des Walker, Terry Butcher and Paul Parker and reserve midfielder Steve Hodge are all on the casualty list, with Walker and Hodge most seriously in doubt.

Cameroon, facing World Cup success for the first time, will be without defenders Victor N'Dip and Jules Onana and midfielders Emile M'Bouh and Andre Kana Biyik.

They were suspended for one match after receiving their second bookings of the tournament in the 2-1 second round victory over Colombia last Saturday. Kana Biyik had already missed an earlier match through suspension.

"It is a huge problem to be without four players. We checked out who will take their place but we still have a lot of



Lineker, surrounded by Italian Carabinieri, poses for the press. (Reuter wirephoto)

questions to answer," Cameroon's Soviet-born manager Valery Nepomniachy said.

"The players are very tired and every match is harder now."

Cameroon, whose squad includes 11 amateurs, have already progressed further than anyone expected. They are the first African team to reach the quarterfinals and have brought alive the tournament for millions of fans worldwide with their spirit, skill and unexpected success.

Nepomniachy is calling on his side to defy the odds yet again

and earn a semifinal against West Germany or Czechoslovakia. Victory would overshadow even the defeats of Colombia and, in Group B, Romania and defending champions Argentina.

He will ask 38-year-old Roger Milla to come off the substitutes' bench for the fifth time in five games to spur his team on. Milla has scored four goals in the tournament, including the two that beat Colombia.

"I think he must have a computer in his head that tells him what to do in the right situations," Nepomniachy said.

The two teams have never played before but Robson likens Cameroon to Morocco, who held England in the 1986 World Cup. The English lost 2-1 to Argentina in the quarterfinals when Diego Maradona scored his infamous 'hand of God' goal.

"We never underestimate teams and this will be like Morocco four years ago," he said. "So we'll be aware of all the dangers."

First, Robson must work out who is fit. Lineker has an injured toe, Walker and Parker have bruised legs, Barnes and Hodge

have groin injuries and Butcher has a knee injury.

But Robson thinks he can end his England career before joining Dutch club PSV Eindhoven after the World Cup by leading his side to the last four for the first time in 24 years.

"If we get to the semifinals it will be the first time we have done so outside England and that will be very rewarding for a lot of people," he said.

England, who won Group F by beating Egypt and drawing with Ireland and the Netherlands, must decide whether to play the five-man defence that was successful against the Dutch and Belgium or the four-man line they used in other matches.

They have conceded only one goal in the World Cup since they lost to Argentina in Mexico in 1986 and have found new inspiration in playmaker Paul Gascoigne, who set up the last gasp goal that knocked out Belgium 1-0.

Probable teams:

Cameroon — Thomas N'Kono, Bertin Ebwelle, Benjamin Massing, Emmanuel Kunde, Stephen Tataw, Luis M'Fede, Thomas Libih, Jean-Claude Pagal, Emmanuel Maboang, Cyrille Makanaky, Francois Omani Biyik.

England — Peter Shilton, Paul Parker, Terry Butcher, Des Walker, Mark Wright, Stuart Pearce, Steve McMahon, Paul Gascoigne, Chris Waddle, John Barnes, Gary Lineker.

Referee: Edgardo Codesal (Mexico)

Kickoff: Sunday, 10.00 pm (Kuwait time)



Bobby Robson answers questions during a news conference. (Reuter wirephoto)



Barnes signs an autograph for a fan. (Reuter wirephoto)

Italians using Cup for shopping spree

ROME, June 30. (Reuter): In the rich and glamorous world of Italian soccer, the next best thing to winning is shopping and the World Cup finals have provided a hypermarket of talent.

Having swept the board in European soccer titles last season, Italy's 18 First Division clubs have an embarrassment of choice as they scramble to complete their three-man foreign quotas.

While the national team steers a smooth course towards the World Cup final, Italian club managers have seen many of their previous foreign investments sparkle for other nations and know they have only to wave their chequebooks to lure the best of the rest.

The talent scouts were out even before the 24-nation tournament kicked off in Milan on June 8, with UEFA Cup champions Juventus securing West Germany's Thomas Häßler for \$8.8 million and Brazilian defender Julio Cesar for \$2.5 million.

World Cup favourites West Germany, the South American countries and the Netherlands remain the favourite hunting grounds for the big clubs, many of which are backed by Italy's top businessmen.

"The value for money of the great players — like the Dutch and the Argentines — has not changed during this World Cup," said Napoli general manager Luciano Moggi, who can afford to sit back with the likes of Diego Maradona, Careca and Alemão still on his books.

"But the Germans have gone up in value and so, in part, have the Brazilians," he added.

Smaller clubs are finding they

can pick up bargains from Eastern Europe.

Genoa have secured the tournament's top scorer so far — Czechoslovakia's Tomas Skuhravy — for a relative pittance of about \$2.8 million, while Uefa Cup runners-up Fiorentina and Bari signed Romanians Marius Lacatus and Florin Raducioiu, respectively at about the same cost.

At prices like this, clubs can pick up two or three foreigners for half the price of the world's most expensive player — Italy midfielder Roberto Baggio, who signed for Juventus in May for a record \$13 million transfer fee.

British players are back in fashion, despite some unhappy experiments in the past and a lacklustre World Cup performance by England, whose footballers have clearly suffered from their five-year exile from European competition.

Newly-promoted Torino are interested in Tottenham striker Gary Lineker, midfielder Steve McMahon has attracted the attention of Cup Winners' Cup champions Sampdoria, and several smaller clubs like the look of Paul Gascoigne. All three carry a price-tag of about \$4 million.

Platini also got a suspended jail sentence

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Christie completes sprint double

Burrell runs year's fastest 100m

LILLE, France, June 30. (Reuters) American Leroy Burrell ran the fastest 100 metres this year at the Lille Grand Prix athletics meeting yesterday.

Burrell, a 23-year-old student from the University of Houston, clocked 9.96 seconds to beat Daniel Sangouma of France, who set a national record in 10.02.

Burrell was two hundredths of

a second outside his personal best of 9.94 seconds set last year. Three other world best times for the year were set during the meeting which was held in slightly windy conditions.

Merlene Ottey of Jamaica, unbeaten last year over 100 metres, won the 200 metres in 21.97 seconds, another world best for 1990.

Monique Ewanje-Epee of

France confirmed she would be a serious contender for the medal tables at the European championships in Split, Yugoslavia, later this year when she ran the 100 metres hurdles in 12.56 seconds, another French record. Another best time for 1990 came from Romania's Doina Melinte, who clocked three minutes 58.69 in the women's 3,000 metres.

Burrell stole the show from Michael Johnson, the United States' latest sprint star, who ran an impressive 200 metres in 20.01 seconds.

Johnson, who earlier this month won the US Championships 200 metres in 19.90, easily beat fellow-American Floyd Heard, second in 20.45. Brazilian Roberto da Silva, the fastest man over the distance last year, had to settle for third place in 20.47.

In the 110 metres hurdles, Olympic champion Roger Kingdom of the United States suffered a rare defeat when he was beaten by compatriot Tony Dees.

Dees, who clocked a personal best 13.24 seconds, avenged his defeat in this year's US Championships when he was second to Kingdom.

The 1988 Olympic gold medalist, who arrived late after

taking part in another meeting on Thursday night in Verona, Italy, came second in 13.29 seconds. Another American, veteran Greg Forster, returning from a three-month ban for doping, was third in 13.36.

American Mike Powell became the fifth-best long jumper in history with a leap of 8.66 metres.

Powell, 26, improved his personal best by 17 centimetres at his last attempt to beat Robert Emmiyan of the Soviet Union.

Emmiyan, who four years ago cleared 8.86 metres to become the second best long jumper in history after legendary American Bob Beamon, was second with 8.22 metres.

The 3,000 metres steeplechase was an all-Kenyan affair with another best time for this year set by Peter Koech in eight minutes 17.09 seconds.

Koech, who holds the world record of 8:05:35, beat compatriots Patrick Sang and Julius Korir.

At Gateshead, England, Britain's Olympic silver medalist Linford Christie completed a sprint double at an international athletics meeting against East Germany and Canada yesterday.

Europe's fastest man won the 100 metres with ease but had to

fight off the fiercest of challenges from fellow-Briton John Regis in the 200 metres to preserve his unbeaten record this year.

East Germany, in possibly their final international match before almost certain sporting unification with West Germany, dominated the men's field events, but were outclassed on the track by the British team which recorded a shock European Cup victory over them last year at the same arena.

Christie, who a week earlier ran the fastest 100 metres in Britain with a wind-assisted 9.95 seconds, found the elements against him yesterday and clocked 10.35 over the distance.

Canada's former commonwealth 200 metres champion Altee Mahom was second in 10.60 and Regis third in 10.70.

In the 200 metres, Christie, who plans to double up at both events in the European Championships later this year, ran 20.69 seconds, narrowly edging Regis in 20.72. Clarence Calder ran 21.59 to give Britain a clean sweep.

World Cup 800 metres title holder Tom McKean of Britain won his first major race over the distance since capturing the European indoor crown in March.



Burrell raises his arm in victory. Right: Johnson crosses the finish line in 200m. (Reuters wirephoto)



BOWLING

Al Rashed outclass Maharlika

By Sonny Mariano

THE PBAK all-Filipino Summer League, which is now in its third week of the elimination round, continued to be a wide open race for top honours as previous losers turned the tables on their opponents on Friday.

Some teams maintained their winning streak with Al Rashed Freight leading the way after emerging clear winners over Cafe Maharlika via a 4-0 score. The Freight Movers' leading bowler was George Gaculan who submitted a 533 3-game series. Cris Rivera, Art Cabal, Peping Ilagan, Oca Reyes and Joel Laron were the other Freight Movers responsible for the victory. With this win, Al Rashed Freight have played three games less than the other teams, moved up to second spot in the standings behind Magnolia.

For the losing Cafe Maharlika, the top food maker, was Ric Belen (320) and skipper Rener Pacheco (316). Ben Dantes, Mel Cervera, Ojie Olor and Jupai Rivera also played for Maharlika.

On the other lanes, Magnolia looks unstoppable as they won their first game over Hatid Ligaya by a big margin. In the second game defending champions Hatid Ligaya finally woke up and put a big fight before conceding the second game to the League leading Ice Cream Makers.

Able

The Cargo Forwarders gave everything they've got in the third and final game of the match but even though they won convincingly they were not able to catch up with Magnolia in total pinfalls, thus giving the Ice Cream Makers a 3-1 victory. Celso Estrada (555) and Edwin Nepomuceno (549) were the leading flavour makers while the best toppings were Bobot Labacani, Ed de Leon and Rod Dulay. For Hatid Ligaya, Vic Serando who scored 600 pinfalls was the top Forwarder assisted by Manny Insorio, Carl Buganda, Ed Dela Fuente and Rudy Zablan.

In the other games played on Friday, Chiquita bounced back from their setback two weeks ago to turn back one of the pace setter West Africa 3 games to 1. The Banana Magicians who were a far cry from their billing as one of the favourites won through the efforts of youthful Wally Flores, Pete Valisno, Lando Caburao, Arthur Reyes, Jun Manalo and Mando Alejandro. For the West African message experts who remain in contention despite the setback, the top bowlers were, Danny Nahong, Bert Virgo, Mido C. Eddie B. Toio A. Buddy P. and Rene Cabardo.

And finally in the only other game scheduled on Friday, FRM Design Studio got their act together for the first time to blank Jade International. Trading four games to none. The best designers for FRM were: Boy "JVC" Ventus, Manny Regalario, Caloy A. Bedo B., Flor T. and Kila Mariano. For the Jade Trade Masters, Demi Nardo, and Madz Garcia were the best.

Leading

After Friday's games the team standing as follows: Magnolia with 11 points, Al Rashed (7), West Africa (7), FRM Design (6), Chiquita (6), Hatid Ligaya (5), Cafe Maharlika (4), Jade Int'l (1) and Kay and Associates (1).

In the women's division whose teams took a vic last week, the leading team is Kay and Associates (6), Chiquita (5), Far East Rest. (4) and Shell Super Plus (1).

For the current individual records, in the women's division, Amy Abdon has the High Game (225), High Series (437) and the High Average (150) all to her credit. In the men's division, Vic Serando registered the High Game of 237 while Boy Ventus submitted the High Series with his 605 and finally Edwin Nepomuceno's 184 stood as the High Average.

Aside from the trophies awaiting the winners of this event, West Africa Company, one of the competing teams of this League, is giving away an array of gifts to the top finishers.

China seeks glory at Asian Games

Facilities show signs of hasty construction

BEIJING, June 30, (AP) — The new white and gray Asian Games village rises like a city of the future on Beijing's northern edge, symbol of China's hopes to redeem socialism in the eyes of the world and join the sports powers.

By staging Asia's biggest sports meet Sept 22-Oct 7, China's aging revolutionaries hope to show off the material progress of the past decade and wipe out the image of troops firing tanks burned in Beijing streets.

It also seeks to win at least one-third of the 308 gold medals that will be at stake and to outperform South Korea, which narrowly won the overall medals race when it staged the 1986 Asian Games.

For a time, it seemed the trauma of the demonstrations and clashes might derail the Asian Games plans. When calm returned, the construction of 16 new stadium was months behind.

The Asian Games village's two international-class hotels were a mass of jitters and scaffolding, and housing for the expected 7,000 athletes, coaches and officials was not much more advanced. Materials were in short supply, and finances fell far short of the goal.

Claimed

Beijing vice Mayor Zhang Baifa told reporters he would jump from the city's highest building if construction was not completed in time. Workers were put in double shifts, and tens of thousands of students, athletes and ordinary residents were bused in to help dig, haul and rake.

Wei Jizhong, secretary-general of the Chinese Olympic Committee claimed in a recent interview that working for the Asian Games helped unite the country after the turmoil of last year.

"Before people could not understand why we should organize the Asian Games, why we do not use the money to build a university," he said. "After the incident, people realized that the Asian Games could give impulsion to society in many respects. They consider the Asian Games an honour for the Chinese people."

Calls by Hong Kong pro-democracy activists for a boycott of the Games failed. China treated as a diplomatic triumph the agreement of all 39 members of the Olympic Council of Asia to take part in the Games, including Taiwan and South Korea, which has no official ties to China.

Top leaders issued orders for all Chinese to support the Games effort, to "testify to the world that under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, socialist China has the capacity to host a great international sports meet well."

The seemingly endless construction of the village for the Games resulted in a high-rise complex of apartment towers, hotels, shopping centres and convention and recreation facilities linked to central Beijing by a new six-lane road.

Across the street are a new swimming and diving pool, gymnasium and outdoor stadium — called Olympic Stadium to reflect China's hopes of playing host to the Olympics in the year 2000.

Some facilities show signs of their hasty construction — such as stairs that already need repairs. When several thousand spectators attended a diving meet at the new pool in mid-June, drains quickly clogged in the public toilets and an inch of water covered the floors.

The large outdoor reflecting pond behind

the pool buildings already was choked with green slime and trash.

Money is still a problem. Organisers looked to the public to supply 600 million yuan (\$127 million) out of the 2.5 billion yuan (\$532 million) that is considered the bare minimum needed. Most of that comes from the national and Beijing city governments.

Donations

But by the end of June, the fund-raising office said only 360 million yuan (\$76.3 million) of the 600 million from the public had been collected, although they said more is pledged. Most urban Chinese already have made donations at the behest of their employers, and interest in a lottery has been lukewarm. Revenues so far are one-third of what was expected.

Nonetheless, officials insist they are confident more donors will step forward as the state-run media prompts the public daily.

Sports officials are keenly aware of their part in making a good showing for China. Wei confirmed that army officers have lectured and drilled athletes to "enhance discipline" and team spirit.

Foreign training equipment and coaches also have been imported for some sports, he said.

Last year's political turmoil has increased interest in the Games outside of Asia. Wei said nearly 3,000 foreign journalists have applied to cover the Games, 1,000 more than expected.

Many will be watching to see if students and workers unhappy with the past year's political repression on will take advantage of the large foreign presence in Beijing to protest again. But China is ready for that, too.

Sainz leads in New Zealand Rally



Carlsson tackles a curve. (Reuters wirephoto)

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, June 30. (Reuters) Carlos Sainz of Spain led the New Zealand Rally by just one second at the end of the first day on Saturday after struggling with engine problems.

Sainz, who leads the world rally drivers' championship and is the only driver in the top 10 competing in New Zealand, was 22 seconds behind Swedish driver Ingvar Carlsson after the second stage, when the engine of his Toyota Celica GT4 started revving badly.

The team Toyota Europe crew changed various engine parts during the day and in the final stage, through city streets in Auckland, Sainz was finally able to take the lead from Carlsson's works Mazda 323.

United States-based New Zealand driver Rod Millen, the current Asia-Pacific champion, was third 26 seconds behind Sainz in another Mazda.

Judge throws out ABC Games suit

NEW YORK, June 30. (Reuters) A federal judge yesterday ruled that the US government can deny a licence under the Trading with the Enemy Act to Capital Cities/ABC Inc, which had planned to televise the 1991 Pan American Games being held in Cuba.

Capital Cities had sued the government for its denial of a licence but US district Judge John Sprizzo threw out the suit on the government's motion.

The suit had accused Nicholas Brady, Secretary of the Treasury, and R. Richard Newcomb, director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control, of violating the network's rights.

But Sprizzo said Capital Cities' argument rest on the assumption that the government's power to regulate speech when dealing with foreign affairs is subject to the same limit that the First Amendment imposes domestically.

James, who also plays for county side Glamorgan, struck his runs off 244 balls, with 16 fours, in 249 minutes, to play the major part in New Zealand's first defeat in a first-class game since November 1987 when South Australia beat them by three wickets in Adelaide.

New Zealand, without star players Martin Crowe and Richard Hadlee, set the students a tempting target when they declared their second innings 20 minutes before lunch at 238 for seven.

Off-spinner John Bracewell captured seven wickets in a 33-over spell at a cost of 120 runs to finish with match figures of 12 for 227.

NEW ZEALAND first innings 301 for four declared (J. Crowe 132, M. Greatbatch 82, M. Priest 55 not out). COMBINED UNIVERSITIES first innings 277 (R. Morris 75, S. James 67; J. Bracewell five for 107).

Scoreboard

NEW ZEALAND second innings (overnight 125-21): J. Crowe c G. Turner b Crawley 64, S. James c G. Turner b Buzza 20, K. Rutherford c and b Buzza 38, A. Parore c R. Turner b Buzza 15, J. Bracewell c R. Turner b Buzza 38, M. Priest c G. Turner b Buzza 31, W. Watson not out 17, C. Pringle c Atkinson b Crawley 6, Extras (b 4 lb 2 nb 3) 9.

Total (seven wickets declared) 238.

Fall of wickets: 1-47 2-124 3-145 4-146 5-205 6-224 7-238.

Bowling: Van der Merwe 8-1-30-0, G. Turner 9-3-18-1, Turner 14-0-63-0, Buzza 12-0-87-4, Pymon 6-2-12-0, Crawley 6-3-22-2.

COMBINED UNIVERSITIES second innings

S. James not out 131, R. Morris c Greatbatch b Bracewell 53, M. Kilborn run out 3, G. Turner c Crowe b Bracewell 26, A. Crawley lbw b Bracewell 5, J. Atkinson b Bracewell 4, W. Van der Merwe c Parore b Bracewell 14, P. Gerrans b Bracewell 10, R. Pymon not out 10, Extras (b 2 lb 3 nb 3) 13.

Total (for eight wickets) 266.

Fall of wickets: 1-93 2-108 3-164 4-178 5-184 6-220 7-230 8-262.

Bowling: Thomson 5-1-14-0, Watson 7-1-27-0, Bracewell 33-6-120-7, Priest 25-2-79-0, Pringle 6-2-16-0.

Result: Combined Universities won by two wickets.

Combined Universities edge past New Zealand

LONDON, June 30. (Reuters) New Zealand suffered the first first-class defeat of their English tour yesterday at the hands of the young cricketers of the Combined Universities who triumphed with two wickets and 10 balls to spare.

A cracking, unbeaten 131 from opener Steve James, who scored 67 in the first innings, guided the students to the 263-run target set by New Zealand, whose only other defeat on tour was in a one-day international.

Neutral Test umpires get ICC backing

LONDON, June 30. (Reuters) A panel of independent umpires could be ready to take charge of Test cricket next year following a decision by the International Cricket Council (ICC) yesterday.

The game's ruling body decided the seven chief executives of the Test-playing nations should meet in October to finalise a three-point package comprising a code of conduct, a panel of neutral umpires and a match referee.

ICC chairman Colin Cowdrey said: "The council was unanimous in its condemnation of the deterioration in standards of discipline in the international game."

"There was a general consensus that the formation of an independent panel of umpires would go a long way to playing a significant part. And it was decided that it was essential to introduce an international code of conduct."

He said the executives would meet at Lord's in October to formulate the new rules for ratification by the ICC in Australia next January and implementation in April.

The first series that would be affected would be West Indies' tour of England next year.

The code of conduct is expected to include fines for verbal intimidation by players, possible suspension for dissent and fines for slow over rates.

"I expect the package to happen. The problems in cricket are staring right at us," said Cowdrey, adding that the game had become more combative.

Beach Boys bid to defend Cup

SAN DIEGO, California, June 30. (Reuters) The Beach Boys rock group are the stars of a surprise syndicate that is in the running to sail for the right to defend the America's Cup, yachting's most prestigious trophy, in the 1992 series.

Beach Boys America were an unexpected entry among four syndicates who cleared Thursday's first hurdle set by the America's Cup Organising Committee (ACOC) at the San Diego Yacht Club (SDYC).

Others still in contention are Team Dennis Conner, Isler Sailing International, and Triumph America Foundation.

Beach Boys America were a last-minute surprise.

"They called us about three weeks ago," said ACOC spokesman Tom Mitchell. "And asked us what we thought of the idea. We said, 'Hey, if you could pull it together, give it a shot.'"

Pulling it together is David Lowry, a 46-year-old San Diego real estate developer and SDYC member.

Lowry hopes the Beach Boys connection will pay off in at least one record album, with proceeds going to the Cup effort.

Lagmay helps Kabayan tame Hatid Ligaya

KABAYAN RESTAURANT, ably supported by its Group A alternate Teddy Lagmay, defeated Hatid Ligaya Door-to-Door Forwarders (3-1) to affirm their No 1 post after the second round match of the Inter-Commercial Team Chess Tournament, organized by the Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Filcheck) held on Friday, at the new Kabayan Restaurant.

Group B Blitz King Gil Opiana Jr., playing on Kabayan's Board 3, crashed Mel Espinosa's Queen Pawn's opening in just 27 moves. Jun Pacana outlasted last year's Board 1 gold medalist Mon Cortado, who is seeing action for the first time after a month's vacation in the Philippines. Nilo Magtanggob, playing a Bishop Opening, beat Ely Nacional in 43 moves to give the defending champions their only loss after 8 games. Nacional made a serious blunder on his 34th move that allowed Magtanggob to win a piece.



The Kirby team which is lying fifth in the overall standings.

Far East Bank this time blanked default-ridden JM International (4-0) to bounce back into contention. Rey Mangor-nong, playing on Board 2, completed the banker's sweep of the International Masters by outwitting Wally Alamada in 44

moves of a French Defense. The other JM players, namely: Ariel Martinez, Ed Madela and Dads Pares, failed to show-up and lost by default.

Al Rashed Freight, undaunted by the absence of their Board 3 player Bernard de los

Reyes, drew with Al Nuzha Garage (2-2) to show that they are a team to beat in this tournament.

Group A Blitz King Ingy Vendiola, playing French Defense, out-manoeuvred Active Chess Champion Nanding Policarpio in 48 moves. Robert Vargas, redeeming himself after his first round loss, crashed Danny Calasin in just 22 moves of a Caro Kann Defense. Calasin made a dubious double Knight sacrifice on the 13th and 14th move but Vargas wisely steered his King out of trouble to his Queenside after the 20th. Calasin resigned a couple of moves after.

In what may be dubbed as the battle of the rookies, Freight Movers' Hermie Corpuz outwitted Felix Sillo on Board 4 in 60 moves of a Sicilian Defense after Sillo missed two chances to force a draw on the 47th and 51st moves. Fred de Nieva won by default on Board 3.

In the softer side of hostilities, club president Edward Racaza announced that there will be a meeting on Monday, July 2, at 5 pm at Kabayan Restaurant. All concerned (officers, programme, participants, team managers and mums) should come to discuss, among other things, the Awards Night which will feature the awarding ceremony of the on-going tournament and the search for this year's Filcheck Queen.

Third round schedule:

Friday, July 6 9am Kabayan Restaurant (White Vs Black): Hatid Ligaya vs JM Int'l, Al Nuzha vs Kabayan, Kirby vs Al Rashed, Far East Bank — Bye.

Standings

(After Round 2)

Kabayan	: 8 : 7 : 0 : 1 : 7
Al Nuzha	: 8 : 5 : 0 : 3 : 5
Al Rashed	: 8 : 4 : 0 : 4 : 4
Far East Bank	: 8 : 4 : 0 : 4 : 4
Hatid Ligaya	: 8 : 3 : 0 : 5 : 3
Kirby	: 4 : 1 : 0 : 3 : 1
JM Int'l	: 4 : 0 : 0 : 4 : 0



Navelim for Dubai

Navelim Youth Centre's soccer team, Navelim Youth Stars, along with their officials and supporters will leave today for Dubai to play an exhibition match with a Dubai Goans selection. Above: standing (from left): John Louis, Elias Louis, Alcantaro Barreto, Mauricio Carnerio (team manager) Santiano Fernandes, Lourenco Dias, Mauricio D'Costa, Avellino Dias (captain). Sitting (from left): Micky Rebello (team coach-vice captain), Reginaldo Lobo, Peter Colaco, Joaquim Fernandes, Eusebio Fernandes, Domnic Pereira.

Dubai's Victory Team smash three world records in United States

SARASOTA, Florida: On the eve of their first US powerboat race, Dubai's Victory Team has sent the American racing circuit reeling by setting three new world records in Florida.

The Gulf's most successful powerboat racing squad powered their way into the sports history books by

establishing speed records in three different classes at the Donzi World Kilo Speed Runs on Friday.

And the phenomenal performances of Victory boats 7 and 106 has sent anxious rumblings through the dozens of top-class American crews gathered in Sarasota for the sixth Suncoast offshore Grand Prix which

gets underway today.

The winner of six consecutive Middle East races, Victory 7 sent the first record tumbling. Driven by Hamed Buheleba of the UAE with America's Randy Scism working the throttle, the 32-foot catamaran broke the Union International Motonautique (UIM) 11 world speed record not

once, but twice.

On its first two runs over the designated kilometre long course, Victory 7 clocked up an average speed of 117.5 mph beating the previous record by almost 2 mph.

Not content with that, Buheleba and Scism took to the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico for a second time

and shattered their own record to finish the day as the new UIM 11 world speed record holders with an average speed of 119.6 mph.

As well as breaking the coveted UIM 11 record which had stood for five years, the Victory Team also set new records in the Sportsman D and Pro-Stock classes.

With Sheikh Hasher bin Khalifa Al Maktoum at the wheel and Scism on the throttle, Victory 106 set a new Sportsman D record of 111.7 mph, while Saeed Al Tayar and Scism broke the existing Pro-Stock record with a speed of 111.8 mph.

Today's \$35,000 Grand Prix will see Victory boats 7, 11, 106 and 108

line up alongside many of the sport's finest crews, including the top three in the 1990 National APBA/Offshore High Point Standings.

Despite their impressive performances in the Middle East, the Victory boats will be up against a number of larger and more powerful vessels for the first time.

Steffi Graf flies home

LONDON, June 30, (Reuters): Steffi Graf, beset by personal problems, has unexpectedly flown home to West Germany for a short break in the midst of the defence of her Wimbledon crown.

The Women's Tennis Association (WTA) said today Graf left yesterday soon after reaching the fourth round with an easy victory over compatriot Claudia Kohde-Kilsch.

A spokeswoman said the 21-year-old West German would return in time for her next match against 14-year-old American Jennifer Capriati on Monday.

"She is taking a break. She will return tonight or tomorrow night," a spokeswoman for the WTA said today.

Graf has been under pressure this week after continuing speculation about her father's reported affair with a nude model. Journalists have been asked at news conferences to confine their questions to tennis.

Lemond 2nd in prologue

POITIERS, France, June 30, (AP): Thierry Marie of France won the opening prologue in the Tour de France today, beating defending champion Greg Lemond by four seconds in the stage to determine an overall leader.

Marie completed the 6.3-kilometre (four-mile), 360-degree loop movie theatres and video showrooms in a high-tech industrial and theme park called Futuroscope in 7 minutes, 49.09 seconds. Lemond finished on the warm, summer day in 7:53.16 edging Mexican Raul Alcala 7:53.19.

Last year, Lemond used the final time trial to snatch the yellow jersey from Laurent Fignon, winning by eight seconds. Lemond also won in 1986.

After an off-season filled with distractions and a virus, Lemond, who had a poor performance in the Tour of Italy earlier this season, was believed to be out of form.

"I've been confident for two weeks," Lemond said. "I had hoped to be in the top three."

Tomorrow morning's first stage is a 138.5-kilometre (86-mile) loop around Poitiers. The teams compete over a 44.5-kilometre (27.5-mile) in the afternoon.

This year's Tour goes clockwise around France for 3,399 kilometres (2,112 miles) ending on the Champs Elysees in Paris on July 22.

Argentina go through

Yugoslavs lose in penalty shoot-out



Argentina coach Carlos Bilardo (left) rushes to congratulate his players. (Reuters wirephoto)



Yugoslavia's Susic (left) tries to go around Argentina's Jose Serrizuela. (Reuters wirephoto)

FLORENCE, Italy, June 30, (AP): Defending champion Argentina beat Yugoslavia 3-2 on penalties today after the teams had drawn 0-0 after extra time in their World Cup quarterfinal.

Both Argentina and Yugoslavia squandered scoring chances during the 120 minutes of play — and the penalty shoot-out was a similar comedy of errors.

Diego Maradona and Pedro Troglio both missed penalties for the world champions, while three Yugoslavs failed to find the net. Dragan Stokjovic, Dragoljub Brnovic and Faruk Hadzigeorgic all missed.

Argentina goalkeeper Sergio Goycochea made the crucial final save from Hadzigeorgic's low shot.

Yugoslavia played most of the match with 10 men after defensive midfielder Refik Sabanadzovic was sent off in the 32nd minute for a foul on Maradona. He earlier had been given a yellow card for refusing to move back at a free kick.

Argentina had the ball in the Yugoslav net in the final minute of extra time, but Swiss referee Kurt Rottlisberger disallowed the goal, apparently ruling that Jorge Burruchaga handled the ball.

Television replays of the incident were inconclusive.

The Argentines surrounded the referee in protest and Burruchaga pushed the referee in the chest, but escaped punishment.

Both benches cleared and there was a brief pushing match before order was restored.

Despite the expulsion of Sabanadzovic, Yugoslavia had the better of play in regulation time.

Sweeper Davor Josic, who already has scored two goals in the tournament, three times came close to breaking the deadlock.

First he crashed a volley over the crossbar in the 12th minute, then he flicked a header inches wide in the 27th minute of the half.

Robert Prosinecki also came close with an angled shot that flew across the face of goal.

Argentina's best chance came in the fourth minute when Claudio Caniggia caused panic in the Yugoslav defence but Jorge Burruchaga shot wildly.

Maradona's threat was muted throughout and his teammates struggled on attack.

Oscar Ruggeri started a header on the crossbar in the 50th minute and Yugoslav goalkeeper Tomislav Ivkovic saved one-handed from a Burruchaga shot in the 67th minute and also blocked a low shot from Ruggeri.

Yugoslavia's best chance of the second half came in the 55th minute when Susic failed to control the ball in the penalty area with the goal at his mercy.

Dean Savicevic missed the best chance of extra time, flicking the ball over the bar from right in front, while Ivkovic saved well at the other end, halting a Troglio header.

With both teams reluctant to throw men forward, the penalty shoot-out came as no surprise.

Nor did the succession of saves and misses. The shooting had been erratic throughout the game, and the pattern continued in the shoot-out.



France's Philippe Saint-Andre (centre) attacks as Australian players close in. (Reuters wirephoto)

France beat Australia

SYDNEY, June 30, (Reuters): France recovered their rugby union pride today when they beat Australia 28-19 in the third and final Test match despite having prop Philippe Gallart sent off for punching early in the second half.

Flyhalf Didier Cambarero scored 21 points including one of his side's two tries against an Australian side which could not repeat its crushing form of the first two Tests.

Gallart, warned in the first half for rough play, was sent off by Welsh referee Clive Norling in the 49th minute for a straight right to the face of Australian number eight Tim Gavin.

Minutes earlier French captain Serge Blanco had been helped off the field with a torn hamstring, receiving a standing ovation from the 35,000 crowd.

France, holding on to a 13-12 halftime lead at the time, looked in deep trouble but they continued to match a strangely lacklustre Australian side bidding for their first 3-0 victory in a major series since 1929.

The touring side, which lost the first Test 21-9 and the second 48-31, dominated the line-outs and the rejuvenated French pack finally provided their backs with a constant flow of good balls from loose play.

French coach Jacques Fouroux said: "It was one of our most satisfying victories, we had lost the habit of winning." France had lost six of their previous nine Tests before today's game.

Quoted earlier in the week as saying France needed 'men' to win the World Cup, Fouroux told reporters: "That was the only means of making it understood to the team that they needed to play well."

Stewart, Valenzuela shine

TORONTO, June 30, (Reuters): Dave Stewart of the Oakland Athletics and Fernando Valenzuela of the Los Angeles Dodgers made history last night by pitching the first no-hitters in different leagues on the same night.

Stewart, a 20-game winner in each of the last three seasons, strengthened his claim as the American League's top pitcher by throwing a no-hitter against the Toronto Blue Jays.

Stewart struck out 12 and walked three batters in a 5-0 Oakland victory as the powerfully built right-hander notched his first career no-hitter.

Valenzuela pitched his first career no-hitter as the Dodgers shut out the St. Louis Cardinals 6-0 at Dodger Stadium.

He struck out seven, walked three and induced former Dodger teammate Pedro Guerrero to ground into a game-ending double play.



Sulayem (left) with co-driver Ronan Morgan.

win a European Championship rally, explained: "A small hole developed in the exhaust manifold."

"We patched it up but the heat burnt through the electrical wires and started a small fire. On the road section the Mitsubishi mechanics helped us fit a new battery, but the car refused to start again. I'm very disappointed. I know I could have won."

Sulayem's great effort as the rally moved across the Bosphorus into Asia yesterday revived his hopes of victory after he had lost a commanding lead at the end of the first leg.

After six stages he led by almost three minutes from Bugalski, and looked to be in total control. But a broken differential on stage seven later took 30 minutes to replace, resulting in time penalties of seven minutes.

Re-starting in fifth place yesterday morning, Sulayem immediately began to beat away at Bugalski's lead and had the Frenchman in his sights when disaster struck.

Like Sulayem, Khalifa had also run out of luck on the seventh stage the previous night. But after damaged front suspension post him seven minutes in time penalties he was making good progress before the incident which put him out of the rally.

Turkish champion Emre Yellici also joined the casualty list after his Lancia collided with his team manager's car on a road section.

Edberg outlasts Mansdorf

WIMBLEDON, England, June 30, (AP): Stefan Edberg survived a five-set scare from Amos Mansdorf today to reach the fourth round at Wimbledon.

Edberg, the 1988 champion and the third seed this year, battled stiff winds and a determined opponent on court 1, before breaking the Israeli in the next-to-last game and holding serve to win 6-4, 5-7, 3-6, 6-2, 9-7.

On centre court, Gabriela Sabatini came alive to win her third-round match. Sabatini, the women's fourth seed but listless in recent tournaments, beat Catherine Tanvier of France 6-4, 6-2 with an animated, all-court game.

A second-round loser at Wimbledon last year and eliminated in the fourth round at the French Open last month, Sabatini said a new coach and a new mental

toughness had her ready to go much farther this time.

"I feel very happy with my game at this point," she said. "I am feeling more confident on the grass. Today I was in control of the match the whole time. I played well when I had to play well."

As the first week of the Grand Slam tournament drew to a close on a cool, breezy day, other top players joined Sabatini among the final 16 in the singles fields.

Women's seventh seed Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria beat Ann Devries of Belgium 6-2, 6-0, 11th-seeded Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union rallied for a 2-6, 6-2, 6-4 victory over Gretchen Magers of the United States and 14th-seeded Judith Wiesner of Austria beat Laura Gildemeister of Peru 6-2, 7-5. Nathalie Tauziat of France beat Amy Frazier of the United States 3-6, 6-2, 7-5.

Schwartz wins Dutch GP

ASSEN, Netherlands, June 30, (Reuters): American Kevin Schwartz reaffirmed his challenge for this year's world 500 cc motorcycle championship by beating current leader Wayne Rainey into second place at the Dutch Grand Prix today.

The race of just over 133 kilometres quickly developed into another of the duels between Schwartz and his compatriot which are starting to dominate the 1990 season's meetings.

The victory gives Schwartz 124 points in this year's world championship to put him 24 points behind Rainey, with seven races to go. Australian Michael Doohan lies in third with 86 points after coming in fourth today.

Much of the field for the 1990 championship has been depleted by injuries.

Nards scores win over Parayno

SECOND seed Nards Cruz beat Juane Parayno 6-1, 6-2 in the second round of the 1990 All-Filipino Tennis Tournament at the Holiday Inn Hotel on Friday.

Nards was in control during the 60-minute match, forcing a lot of errors on Juane.

Ato Cagayutan scored a big win over topspinner and hard serving Ernie Lagman 6-3, 6-4. Ato's unorthodox play and court antics totally unfazed Ernie.

Carlito Baginda survived one set down in the first set and tie-breaker in the second set when Rod Mendoza retired in the third set due to leg cramps, 2-6, 7-6, 1-2 retired.

Junjun Dianito defeated Raul Basis 6-4, 6-3. Junjun, a wild card entry used a booming serve and good baseline rally against Raul. Romeo Carandang took advantage of the initial stiffness of Willy Reyes to win 6-2, 7-5.

Joy Valerio, the doubles champion in the KAT tournament, made it to the second round against Peter Cabanero by walkover. Orlando Cabatangan likewise won by default over Joey Jalandoni. Arnold San Diego defeated Fer Anangel 6-0, 6-1.

In the ladies match, Liberty Corral proved too seasoned for Cathy Paleyan 6-1, 6-1. Liberty capitalised on her consistent ground strokes and serve to defeat a troubled Cathy.

In doubles, the Rolly Rodriguez-Rolly Quider tandem outclassed Nea Llanes/Dani Catacutan 6-1, 6-1. Ato Cagayutan, the big winner from his singles match, paired with another winner Gerry Sanez to defeat Julio Alberto and Isidro Crispin, 6-0, 6-2. Rene Ventura

Sulayem's great win bid fails

ISTANBUL: Frenchman Philippe Bugalski won the Gunaayin Turkish International Rally last night after Mohammed Bin Sulayem's courageous bid for victory was foiled in a dramatic climax to the 900-km event.

After having a commanding lead wiped out at the end of the first leg, the Middle East champion made a brilliant recovery only to see his hopes ruined by an electrical failure.

Sulayem had sliced almost four minutes off Bugalski's five-and-a-half minute overnight advantage with a tremendous surge in his Winston Toyota Celica T-4 when the car came to a halt on a road section with four special stages remaining.

There was disappointment also for the UAE's Suhail Khalifa, who was lying fourth in his Mitsubishi Galant when he went out of the rally in unusual circumstances. A statement from the Mitsubishi team said they withdrew after the penultimate stage "due to circumstances beyond our control."

Bugalski, well aware that he had been rapidly losing his battle to stay ahead of Sulayem, went on to win by more than four minutes from Turkey's Iskender Atakan whose fellow-countryman Ali Basoglu finished third.

Sulayem, who had looked set to become the first Arab driver to



Kathy Paleyan (left) congratulates Liberty Corral. Right, Nards in action